Boro relive Wembley nightmare

David Lacey at Wembley

T LEAST this time Middlesbrough brought a sweat to Chelsea's brow. But the brough brought a sweat to Gascoigne here last Sunday could not prevent this senson's Coca-Cola Cup final going the way of last season's FA Cup final.

Again Chelsea defeated Boro 2-0, the goals coming in extra-time from Frank Sinclair and Roberto Di Matteo after the First Division side had frustrated their Premiership opponents with an effective mixture of disciplined defending and inspired

Bryan Robson's team, however, could not find the attacking inspiration to break down a Chelsea defence superbly organised by Michael Duberry and Frank Leboeuf. The Tresside roar that greeted Gascoigne, a \$5.7 million signing from Rangers last week, in the 64th minute did not find an echo on the pitch. After so long without regular match practice Gascoigne was just not up to it.

Even so he came close to stealing the headlines by getting himself sent off. Having been booked by Peter Jones for fouling Glanfranco Zola, he risked dismissal by bringing down Dennis Wise just outside the Boro penalty area.

A red card then and Gascoigne's return to English football would have lasted only a few minutes longer than his farewell appearance, seven years earlier, when he was stretchered off in tears in the firsthalf of the 1991 FA Cup final, by sending off three Barnsley players

between Tottenham Hotspur and | Graeme Le Saux on their right wing | Boro's reach. First Mark Hugher Nottingham Forest with a serious knee injury. For Boro that would have been the ultimate anticlimax.

Nevertheless the appearance of Gascoigne did have a pivotal effect on the course of the match. Up to that point Wise's influence for Chelsea had been severely limited by the close attentions of Robbie Mustoe but thereafter, with Boro's midfield reorganised to accommodate Gascoigne, Wise practically took the game over.

Yet Gascoigne's rustiness was not Boro's biggest disappointment, which lay more in their failure to ex-

before half-time. Le Saux, like Gas- met a dipping centre from Le Saux coigne, had missed a number of games through injury and was lack-Schwarzer, hurling himself high to his left, somehow managed to push ing both pace and sharpness. Merson, however, was slow to wide. Then Zola saw a shot take a sufficient deflection off Gianluca confort, preferring to pump angled Festa to divert it past a post, and balls in towards Marco Branca and finally Hughes, rising well to meet Hamilton Ricard, an unusually cum-Zola's cross, could not get enough

easily intercepted by the Chelsea Chelsea were disappointing elsewhere until Wise took charge. Yet in the space of four minutes midway through the first half they might

bersome Colombian, which were

when Zola gathered a return pass from Dan Petrescu and drove the ball against the crossbar from 25 yards. By then Boro had seen what turned out to be their two best chances of winning fail to produce

power in his downward header to

In fact Schwarzer was not benten

until two minutes before the hour.

beat the goalkeeper.

licard in space only for Sinclair to ackle the Colombian before he ould bring the ball under control. Two minutes later Andy Townsend sem Ricard through but again Sinclair's covering was immaculate.

However, it was the right-back's presence at the other end in the 5th minute that proved more significant. Merson's misdirected eturn pass to Gascoigne inadvertently set up a Chelsea move that saw Sinclair and Zola work the hall out to Wise on the right. Wise centred from the byline and Sinclair neaded in at the near post.

Early in the second period o extra-time Mustoe slipped as he went to intercept Zola's corner and missed the ball, leaving Di Matteo to slip between Steve Vickers and Nigel Pearson to score clinically.

Results

COCA-COLA CUP FINAL:

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: Arsenal 1, Sheff Wed 6: Barnsley 2, Usepza 3: Bolton 2, Useosster 6: Coventry 1, Estyle Crystal Palace 1 Tottenham 3; Everian 1, Aston Vill. 4; Manchester Und 2, Wartischol Southampton 2, Newcaste 1 Leading positions: 1 Mer Little Manchester Leading positions: 1, Man Utd (plated \$2-points 6-3); 2, Arsenal (29-57), Liverport() \$4.

MATIONWIDE LEAGUE: Division One: Birminghin 1, WBA (). Bracklord C 2, Main City 1: Chaillon 4, Ichin For 2, Hudderstid 1, QPR 1, Ipswich 1, Brackling C; Catard 2, Norwich C; Sheff Up 2, Part Vale 1, Stockport C, Crewe 1; Stree), Trannera 3; Sunderted 2, Bury 1, Wokes 2, Dietsmaith (). Leading positions: 1, Notin Forest (977) 1. Sunderland (99-76), 3, Middlesboro (8-7)

Cornesty 1, Carliste C. Bournemin 1. Checterist 3. Millsvoll 1, Gillingham 2, Fusans Planticult 2, Westhan G Presion 1, Wont ; Waltsall 2, Lution 5, Waltona 1, Northingto 1, Wycombe 1, Bristol City 7 on 1 Backey 1 Leading positions: 1, Waltona (40-7), 2, Bristol City (39-75) 1, (annusby (38-65)

Division Three: Barnet : Hartlepools Cambridge 1, Derlington 0, Carolff 0, Bigfos 0, Holl 0, Macciestift o Lincoln 0, Cabrage : Monsheld 2, Petertion 0, Norts Co 1, Oorts Bischtkale 4, Doncaster 1, Risherhan 0. Sharboro (t. Sc. morpe 2, Torquay 0, Shrewating 1, Eveter 1, Swansea 2, Cheste Leading positions: 1 (Note County 40 & L. Torquay 600-65), 3 MacdesAed 60-65.

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Promiar Division: Oak V Hearts C Distribution 2, Rangers 3; Huernau I, Aberdeett -, Motherwell I, Europe U.S. Leading positions: 1 (Jellin (30-63).2 Hearts (30-61): 1, Flar gers (50-60)

String A F Monor T, Faller T, Handlood Arctine C, Ranck T, Hailth C Leading positions: | Dunder (20.65) 2. Ratth (30.63), (5. Faller (10.53)

Second Divisions Civilebare 1, Inverses C O: Civile 3, Cureon 5th 1: East Fife 4, Brown Forte 2, Livingston 1, Schnism 0, Startal Leading poaltionss 1, Chickenin (30-55) 2, Livingston (30-49). Strantaer (30-46)

Third Division: Arbroath 2, Cowdnbth 0 Bervick 1, Montrose 1, E String 2, Albon 0 Curems Pk 1, Alloa 1; Ross Co 0, Dumbath 0 Leading positiones 1, Alloa (30-60), 2, Arbroath (29-54), 3, Ross County (30-51).

Hamas feud 'killed master bomber'

Binyamin Netanyahu, said the news was "a positive development" which

showed that the Palestinian Author-

ity could fight terror "when it

Hamas rejected the Palestinian

report as lies and pledged that

Sharif's blood would not have been

spilt in vain — suggesting it is still

planning revenge attacks in Israel. Security in public areas has been

stepped up. Since Sharif's scorched body was

found next to an exploded car bomb in the Palestinian-controlled West

Bank town of Ramallah, there have

been many conflicting accounts of

his death. Israel maintained from

the start that it was not involved and

sent envoys to Gaza to try to con-

vince Mr Arafat.

trancing. Last year Israell briefings Last week the Palestinian legisla-claimed he was training recruits to tive council blamed Israel for "this

attack Palestinian Authority targets, including its leader, Yasser Arafat. Palestinian official, Nabil Shaath,

TheGuardian

Week anding April 12, 1998

W. C. W. The second distribution of the second distributi

Papon guilt exposes France's 'false truths'

French, it was a long-awaited condemnation of a period in their history that they have long preferred to Ignore. To Maurice Papon, against humanity 17 years after his role in the mass deportation of Jews was first revealed, the 10-year prison sentence he received last week was a travesty of justice.

The jury, which took nearly 19 hours to reach its decision after the longest trial in French history, servant guilty of organising the arrest and detention of Jews during the second world war. But it absolved him of complicity in their murder, accepting his defence that he had not been aware of the Nazi programme of mass extermination.

to be put on trial," the historian

be sentenced to more than 10 years, since Maurice Papon, who participated actively or passively in the worst massacre in the history of

Françoise Pasteur, who lost seven relatives in the gas chambers, said the conviction was a lesson for the future. "Now the young people will know. They'll know even a high and mighty man is not immune."

punishment" of life imprisonment

And the Crif, an umbrella group of Jewish associations, said that while the verdict showed the Vichy regime was guilty of deporting Jews explained by personal factors, like the defendant's age, his grief, or the state of his health," it said.

Papon, who is in poor health and recently lost his wife of 66 years to cancer, sat motionless as the verdict was read out. The sentence was less than the 20 years the public prose cutor had asked for, but the jury of three judges and nine civilians also stripped Papon of his civic rights for

tence, but for me this is enough."

rose to become Paris pulice chief and budget minister after the war, Papon will not go to prison until all his appeals are exhausted, which could take years. His lawyer, Jenu-Marc Varaut, promised to take the case to France's highest court and if necessary to the European Court of ished," he said on the courthouse steps. "I think the jury was afraid of public opinion.

Papon, the most senior civil servant of the collaborationist Vichy regime to stand trial, was charged with ordering the arrests and deportation of 1,590 Jews — including 233 region, where he was wartime Jewish Affairs service. He argued that he was not belying the Nazis. and that he owed it to France to stay on in his post rather than resign. He also insisted that he knew nothing of Hitler's "Final Solution" for Jews.

The case came to light in 1981 but a succession of governments blocked his prosecution until last October. To many in France and outside, it was a litmus test of the country's capacity to acknowledge its collaboration with the Nazis and

its complicity in sending 76,000 French Jews to the death camps. To Alain Jakubowicz, a lawyer for Holocaust survivors and relatives, the court ducked its responsibility by not handing down a life sentence. But, he said, "a page has turned in the history of our country".

look at this period in the way we have, as a time when all Frenchmer were heroes. Those who wanted to oppose the truth, by fabricating talse truth, have been defeated."

Le Monde, page 13

South Africa's army chief quits

Pentagon trained Mexican 'torturers'

Iran's mullahs møet their match

Israeli hacker turns anti-hero 24

26

Mouse that plays like a Bird

BF80 Norway NK 16 Portugat E300 Saudi Arabia SR 6,50 FM 10 DR 600 L3,500

Society expected a whole regime

Denis Peschanski said. "The problem is that this verdict is about the responsibility of an individual involved in the criminal acts of a regime."
The writer Marek Halter said:

The world is judging criminals in Bosnia and Rwanda. Can they now humanity, only got 10 years?"

arrest reportedly confessed that he had prepared the bomb that blew up had died accidentally while preparing a bomb. A post mortem identified the cause of death as gunshots Sharif, aged 32, headed Israel's

But Jean Kahn, head of France's central Jewish religious authority, the Israelite Consistory, said Papon had deserved "the exemplary for not disobeying immoral orders.

"He's become a non-person," Ms Pasteur said. "That's what gives me the most satisfaction. For a man who was so respected, so powerful, this is the ultimate humiliation. He may not serve a day of his prison sen-

A well-regarded civil servant who

Cryptic crossword by Crispa

1 Action about fourth estate is

discouraged (9) 6 A way a politician can create an

9 Greek department of organsation with fur problem (5) 10 At sea for the most part (2,3,4) 11 It's the same old story - but note

the appeal! (10) 12 Home for a large number of

get everybody in (7)

14 Austere man turning up on wrong 15 Most preposterous attempt to

19 A soldier in nesty accommodation may well be gloomy! (7)

20 Prison makes many mature (4) 22 Give voice about a parent being overwhelming (10) 25 A lot stood out for natural growth

26 Go in a little - a very little (5) 27 Downy, and that's essential for a youngster (5)

28 The income women tend to get organised (9)

1 Theatrical make-up (5)

2 Drippers ordered without direction produced water in

Gripping stuff... Liverpool's Paul Ince tackles a spectator during

one of the pitch invasions that marred his side's controversial 3-2

win over Barnsley at Oakwell. The referee incensed the home crowd

droplets (9) 3 Horsemanship, or a mathematical statement about It

4 The boy admitting a leaning for cheese (7)

5 The city tried to change (7) 6 Watch money trickle away (4)

7 A strike to cause embarrassment (5) 8 The American detective is more colourful and heavyweight (9)

13 Guy's after dramatic work, though really no friend of workl

14 A top man not backing up university in the USA (9) 16 Scotled after the Continental mini broke down, being put out (9)

18 Undistinguished character (7) 19 Seat five hundred as arranged (7) 21 A note to file - "Hold on" (5)

23 How the Scots cry hall (5) 24 View in one's pyjamas and dressing-gown (4)

Last week's solution

METEOR OLDHARRY
REN E U O T A

McLaren double act triumphs

Alan Henry at Interlagos

two in the Brazilian Grand Prix. Formula One's most impressive double act at least spared spectators any repeat of the team orders that saw Coulthard, wave Hakkinen

corners on the lap.". The McLarens used a one-stop

That was the best we could hope for," said the German, "but Ferrari has more developments for the Argentine Grand Prix [on April 12], when I hope to give these guys a bit

ADEADLY power struggle in-side the military wing of the militant Islamist party Hamas claimed the life of its chief bomb-

IKA HAKKINEN and David Coulthard crushed the opposition for the second time in a month sauntered to an unchallenged one-

ian race was a major disappoint ment. Raif Schumacher flew off at

Hakkinen accelerated straight into the lead from pole position with Coulthard tucking in behind as the pack braked for the first corner. Heinz-Harald Frentzen's Williams slotted into third place and Eddie Irvine outpaced his Ferrari team

eader Michael Schumacher. lems out of the last couple of

wrangling that began when Ferra

Motor Racing Brazilian Grand Prix

of driving, though, came when

Benetton's Alexander Wurtz, in only

his fifth grand prix, audaciously out

braked Frentzen into the tight left

hander after the pits. The Austrian's

performance was a breath of fresh

air and he thoroughly deserved

fourth place, ahead of Frentzen and

Benetton team-mate Glancario

For the Jordan team, the Bran

the third corner and Damon Hill

struggled, home 10th, two laps

behind the winner. When Hill was

ficial results because his car failed

the post-race weigh in, the former

world champion's day of misery was

without the benefit of their control

versial secondary braking system

was the best response imaginal after days of behind the second

Mercedes system.

protested against the Mclarer

McLaren's domination of this

as their McLaren-Mercedes cars

through to victory in Australia.

Coulthard said: "I would like to have been first rather than second gradient away from the line and that was that. Unless he had a problem, I wasn't going to get close to him, particularly as I had traction prob-

tage and finished the race around a minute clear of Schumacher,

The protests were uphelo which flew in the face of opinions offered by the FIA technical dele gate Charlie Whiting, who has consistently told McLaren that h believed the system to be legal The official view was that the main pur pose of the system was steering rather than braking.

of a chase." O Guardian Publications Ltd., 1998. Published by Guardian Publications Ltd., 164 Despagate, Manchester, M60 2RR, and printed by WCP Commercial Printing, Leek. Second class postage paid at New York, N.Y., and mailing offices. Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office.

Britain and France ratify nuclear test ban

maker last week, Palestinian secu-

rity forces declared on Monday.

Five Hamas activists are under

arrest but the ringleader of the group

that killed Muhi al-Din Sharif — the

man known as Engineer Two who is

alleged to be responsible for the

deaths of 78 Israelis — is still at

large, according to Palestinian officials.

Sharif had apparently tried to take control of Izzedine al Qassam,

Hamas's military wing, but met with

esistance from those who dis-

agreed with him over tactics and

inancing. Last year Israell briefings

clearing Israel of involvement.

hard Norton-Taylor RITAIN and France on Monday became the first uclear weapons states to-ratify he Comprehensive Test Ban reaty, as Pakistan announced that it had successfully test-fired

llong-range missile. The move by Britain and once was a symbolic gesture encourage others, notably uclear threshold" countries uch as Pakistan and India, to

The UK Foreign Secretary, Robin Cook, said it signalled Britain's commitment to "the goal of a nuclear-weapons-free world". lut analysts said it was unlikely to make much of an impression.

Though President Clinton is pected nuclear, che pressing for early ratification by the United States, Republicans in the US Senate are hostile. And although the treaty bane all tests that use fissionable naterial, it does not prohibit try - before coming into force.

"sub-explosive" tests or laboratory experiments. Results of such tests carried out by the US are being passed on to Britain and France. The treaty does not prevent. nuclear states from developing

existing weapons into more sophisticated systems. The US recently.completed trials for a deep-penetration nuclear weapon, the B61-11, which is designed for attacks against underground targets such as

biological warfare sites. The treaty, which was signed n 1996, has to be ratified by 44 "named" countries — states with a civil nuclear power indus-

India and Pakistan have signed

Ban Treaty nor the Nuclear

neither the Comprehensive Test

showed conclusively that Hamas

members had murdered Sharif. The

Palestinian authorities had identi-

fied the murderer, the weapon and

the murderer's accomplices, he

said. "I can now say Israel was not

The investigation unearthed

large quantities of weapons, explo-

sives and time bombs in the Ramal-

lah area. One of the men under

the car to make it appear that Sharif

most-wanted list as the mastermind

of several suicide bombings, most

recently last summer's attacks in

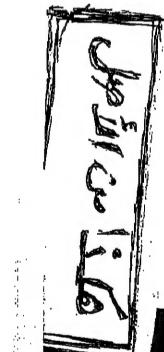
central Terusalem.

responsible for this operation."

Non-Proliferation Treaty.

Pakistan's test of its longest: range 1,500 km missile drew a rebuke on Monday from Washington. "The United States regrets this missile test and calls on both Pakistan and India to exercise restraint," a US state department spokeaman said.

Comment, page 12



The Week

PRESIDENT CLINTON urged the government of Japan to

take bold action to overcome civil

service resistance to the eco-

nomic reforms that could drag

SIXTY-THREE miners were killed and 45 injured in a

methane gas explosion and fire at the Skachinskoho mine in

HE United States envoy Rich-

after separate talks with Greek

ard Holbrooke left Cyprus

and Turkish Cypriot leaders failed

to achieve a breakthrough in his

attempt to reunify the island.

Donetsk, Ukraine.

the country out of financial crisis.

Comment, page 12

Washington Post, page 16

bell's warning that the world is on the eve of an historic discontinuity because it is running out of the abundant cheap oil on which it has come to depend, George F Will writes: "The task of finding the gloomy dimension of declining oil prices is testing the ingenuity of the Cassandra class" (Scraping the bottom of the barrel, March 29).

Nonsense. The gloom is pervasive, although perhaps too much well-oiled living has rendered Will's vision insensitive to it. Declining oil prices will prompt higher oil consumption worldwide. This will result in more driving, accompanied by higher levels of acid rain, smog. road accidents, injuries and pre-mature deaths. There will also be a rise in the consumption of plastics and other petrochemical products. Unless current methods of making, using and disposing of these products are modified, the net effect will be to release more toxic substances into the environment Also, extracting and transporting the extra oil will probably cause more spills, controlling reserves may involve more wars, and burning the extra oil is sure to strengthen the greenhouse effect.

waxes lyrical about the United States having the world's "largest supply" of freedom, but ignores the fact that in practice millions of Americans no longer have the freedom not to drive nor to breathe clean air.

Worse, Will demonstrates scant comprehension of the degree to which global civilisation is dependent on oil, and of the dilemma that this puts us in: we can keep being profilgate with oil until we poison or | troops on the spot. Turkey had no broil ourselves to death, or until we

■ N DISPARAGING Colin J Camp- | run out and face famine. Avoiding either scenario is possible, but it will require more than freedom and scientific creativity.

In referring to those who don't share his glib optimism as "the Cassandra class", Will exposes the hollowness of his musings. The Cassandra of Greek myth received the gift of true prophecy from Apollo who also decreed that she would

not be believed. It doesn't take a prophet to foretell that our love affair with petroleum will end in tears, but true ingenuity is required to maintain the degree of selective ignorance and myopia that allows Will to take such a rosy view of what has become a singularly harmful culture of dependence.

States of the Union

CYPRUS clearly cannot be considered for European Union membership while the present situation remains (Cook's fudge keeps irate partners sweet, March 22). It is a ludicrous pretence that the Greek Cypriot Republic of Cyprus represents the Turkish Cypriot community, or the island as a whole. The independent, multi-cultural Republic of Cyprus was overthrown by the Greek colonels in the coup of 1974. Britain, as guarantor of Cyprus's independent status along with Greece and Turkey, chose to do nothing, despite having two huge

military bases and thousands of

The Guardian

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Turkish Cypriot population on the island, since Nicos Sampson, who had overthrown the government of Archbishop Makarios, was committed to union with Greece, which would have meant ethnic cleansing of the Turkish Cypriot population.
It is clear that by its inaction
Britain, and probably Nato, were nappy to conspire in this plot to get rid of Makarios, who was consid-

ered pro-Soviet The domestic political situation in Cyprus must be stabilised. This neans one of three options: a federal Cypriot republic with autonomous Greek and Turkish states; universal recognition of the Turkish Republic of North Cyprus as an equal, legitimate entity alongside the Greek Republic of Cyprus; or union of the Greek Cypriot Republic with Greece and integration of the northern Turkish Cypriot Republic with Turkey. Any of these options is preferable to the status quo.

John Papantoniou,

THE Guardian Weekly seems be in favour of eventual Turkish membership of the EU (Editorial. March 22). But that would mean a common frontier with unstable countries such as Iraq, Iran, Armenia, Georgia and Syria. Who needs that? The EU's southeastern border would become much more difficult to defend, expanding from a couple of hundred kilometres in Thrace to about 1,500km in Asia Minor.

General Wesley Clark, secretarygeneral Javier Solana and other Nato officials have recently been in Austria trying to persuade that country to apply for Nato membership, in spite of Austria's promise in 1955 to stay neutral. In a speech to the Institute for Political and Strategic Studies in Vienna, Gen Clark said that "we see increasing challenges to security in Europe in the

southeast". So let us keep our south-Sydney, NSW, Australia eastern border short in Europe rather than long in Asia.

Rich pickings for big business

Michael Grut.

GEORGE MONBIOT'S article
"Give us this day our toxic bread" (March 22) dealt with the proposed ruling by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) over the definition of "organic" foods. Monbiot tells us that the new definition of "organic foods" would include foods that are

It may be true, as Monbiot contends, that the USDA is acting on behalf of large producers who do not wish to lose any share of their market, rather than on behalf of the have ways to make their influence felt on the municipal and state level. the federal government is pretty well in the hands of pressure groups, substantially beyond the

reach of the public, An excellent example is the over whelming desire of voters to reform the campaign financing system. This "system" now requires millions of television advertising dollars to be raised for election to the House of Representatives and many more millions for the election of a senator or the president. There is no evidence that there will be any kind of reform, but each political party will blame the other for doing

It is certainly worthwhile to publicise as widely as possible the failure of the USDA to do its duty, but it is mlikely to bring results.

It would be better if the various organisations of farmers and consumers could agree on reasonable standards. As soon as this is accomolished, an attractive logo could be chosen and registered as a "servicemark" (similar to a trademark) in every country where the new association of organic farmers and consumers is active. After a while consumers will look for the logo and the word "organic" will have the same status as "new" or "improved" in adverts.

Montreal, Quebec, Canada

John Lehnert.

AGRIBUSINESS in the US must be feeling very threatened by the organic food industry if it is taking such desperate measures to strangle it. The strategy seems to be: "Let's kill off those competitors who don't follow our destructive farming practices or buy our fertilisers, pesticides etc, and suppress public debate because we want to be allowed to continue to get rich by poisoning the soil, water and

Even though the organic indus try is growing rapidly as more people take responsibility for their own health and that of the planet, the USDA is blatantly going against these positive steps to more sustainable living by supporting the recent despotic actions of big business.

It is time for the world to stand up to the US and boycott the genetically engineered food that America will be allowed to label as "organic" In the future, if the USDA has its way. Otherwise, what good is "free speech" and "free trade" if we aren't even allowed to choose what food to

Gaenor McAlister.

Slicing up trade with Africa

WHILE Bill Clinton calls the shots on his African trade tour, Nelson Mandela has the insight to expose the United States as an ill-disguised capitalist oppor tunist (Africa markets shape Clinton llinerary, March 22). Thousands of people die miserable deaths every year from extreme poverty in Africa. n Sub-Saharan Africa, according to Unicef, only about half the population has access to the most basic needs, such as clean water.

Promoting the adoption of West-ern capitalism and "trade not aid" as a solution to poverty is more likely to perpetuate historical exploitation and generation of profits for the few (the few, as usual, being US business). Self-sufficiency is the key to Africa's future, but it is support for education and initiatives such as microcredit financing that will enable Africans to turn their own lives around and raise their standard of living without being taken advantage of.

Karen Hodgson, Victoria, BC, Canada

OOKING at the photo of President Clinton behind bars alongside President Mandela (April 5), do you think Mr Clinton was acquiring a few tips in case his own homegrown problems go pear-shaped? Stephen Brooks,

Briefly

OR how much longer can the rest of the world stand by while year after year many thousands of people are murdered in the United States as a result of the lax gun law and the culture of violence that exists in that country (Held to ransom by the gun lobby, April 5)? It is becoming accepted that the

rest of the world has a right to interfere in the internal affairs of a sovereign nation when massaces are taking place. Is it not time for a delegation from the European Union to visit the US for discussions at government level on how to tackle the problem? Perhaps the matter should be raised in the United Nations General Assembly and a resolution passed calling on Washington to take action to stamp out this crime against humanity. Terry Jones,

BILL CLINTON asks if there are common elements between Ioneaboro and other US school shootings. Yes, Mr President. Guns.

Thurso, Caithness

N VIEW of the fact that it has become almost customary in recent times for world leaders to apologise for past wrongs, when can we expect to hear an apology from someone for dispossessing the Palestinians?

B Black.

Auckland, New Zealand

IOHN RYLE'S piece (March 29) calls to mind a statement b Vaclav Havel when he was guest of honour at the Cathedral of St John the Divine in New York, just a few weeks after he became president of Czechoslovakia in January 1990.

United States and Japanese aid Mr Havel, a playwright by profes budgets as major donors outside the joint strategy.

With an aid budget of \$8.3 billion, sion, had spent some of his most creative years in prison. According to Lewis Lapham of Harper's Magathe EU is by far the world's most zine, Mr Havel did not give generous donor. The UNDP has a smaller budget of \$2.7 billion. But the political effect of the UN's backspeech. He explained that because he hadn't spent the afternoon in prison, he hadn't had time to com ing for the strategy is important bepose his thoughts. Philip Shano, Guelph, Ontario, Canada cause the UN has traditionally given developing countries a greater say

INTIL we manage to solve the problem of non-gender specific singular personal pronouns, may suggest to your leader writer (March 22) the policy of con-sciously using plural subjects people, human beings, instead of person or one — in sentences the do not refer to identifiable individuals. The resulting construction no only avoids sexism, it strikes a blow however modest, against the ranpant individualism of our culture. Honolulu, Hawaii, USA

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GUARDIAN WEEKLY

Mandela's army chief forced out Gen Meiring's likely successor as

David Beresford in Johannesburg

HE head of the South African National Defence Force, General Georg Meiring, was forced into early retirement this week after a botched attempt by military intelligence to frame public figures on treason charges. Gen Meiring said he was retiring

in an attempt to "restore trust" in the military. Several other senior officers were expected to be

The military had tried to implicate a number of well-known figures . in a plot to stage a coup, among them Winnie Mandela; the deputy minister of defence, Ronnie Kasrils; the former leader of the Transkel, General Bantu Holomisa; and the diplomat Robert McBride.

EU and UN

aid strategy

Martin Walker in Brussels

HE bulk of the world's budget

for development aid, and 95 per

cent of the aid for Africa, is to be

organised by a single body that will

promote private enterprise, human rights and democracy.

The strategy emerged after the

United Nations Development Pro-

gramme (UNDP) and the European

Union on Monday agreed to estab-

lish a joint steering group for their

This follows a similar agreement

between the EU and the World

Bank, and leaves only the shrinking

11 billion aid programmes.

n its programmes.

plan joint

military commander. Lieutenant General Siphiwe Nyanda, had been identified as the leader of the bogus

"I have, after due consideration of all the facts . . . decided that it would be in the best interests of the Sandf if I would ask the president to suspend my contract and allow me to retire on early pension without prejudice," Gen Meiring said. He confirmed that his decision

stemmed from an intelligence report that had falsely claimed there was a plot to overthrow President Nelson Mandela's government, saying: "My position of trust has been unsettled by the report, which leaves me no choice but to come to this decision." He said he would retire with effect from the end of May - nearly a year early.

A statement from the presidency said that Gen Meiring's retirement had been accepted "with regret", and that the cabinet would decide on his successor. President Mandels was quoted as saying the decision was "appropriate" and "honourable".

The announcement brings to an end one of the more bizarre enisodes in South Africa's postapartheid history. It began last month with the arrest in Mozambique of Mr McBride, the head of the Southeast Asia deak in the department of foreign affairs, on gun-running charges. His detention led to a frenzy of press speculation, with claims that he was smuggling arms for the IRA, for rebels in East Timor or for a coup attempt in South Africa.

The speculation was fed by elements of military intelligence,

who leaked details from an intelligence report claiming that Mr ance on suspicion of treason.

Mr Mandela moved to defuse what was developing into a power struggle within the defence estab lishment by appointing a judicial tribunal under the chief justice, Ismail Mahomed, to investigate the veracity of the intelligence report and the circumstances in which and been brought to his attention.

The judges found the report was without substance", that it was based on allegations from a single, unreliable source - a former security force spy arrested with Mr McBride in Mozambique — and that normal safeguards regarding when it had been presented to the

> AULA JONES'S sexual harassment lawsuit against President Clinton was thrown out by an Arkansas judge after she ruled that the evidence submitted was insufficient for a claim of criminal sexual assault. Washington Diary, page 6

B OBERT KOCHARYAN, an uncompromising Armenian nationalist, won the second tial elections, dealing a blow to the prospects of a peaceful resolution to the 10-year conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan.

ENMARK'S supreme court hrew out a challenge to the legality of the European Union's Maastricht treaty. Eurosceptics had argued that the treaty was a threat to national sovereignty.

EAVY rain has extinguished more than 95 per cent of the fires that have devastated vast areas of savannah and jungle in Brazil's northern Amazon

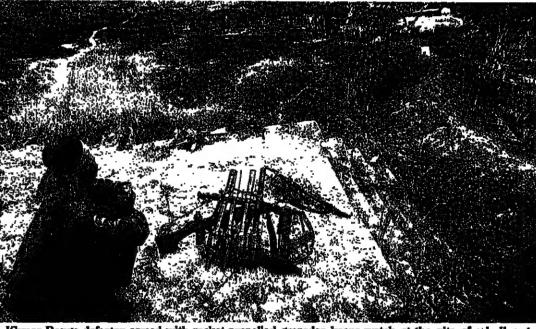
C HINA has agreed to allow European Union envoys to spend a week in Tibet looking at the human rights situation.

G OCHA ESEBUA, who kid-napped several UN soldiers and was also suspected of an attack on the Georgian president, Eduard Shevardnadze, was killed in a shoot-out with government forces.

HE United States government announced a han on the import of more than 50 types of semi-automatic assault weapons; such as the AK-47 and the Uzi.

NDREI KLIMENTIEV, a twice-convicted businessman who was last week elected mayor of Russia's third city, Nizhny Novgorod, has been arrested for embezzlement. The election was declared void.1 19 Le Mondé, page 18

the World Bank suspended huge fields who became one of the loan programmes, accusing Mr. great figures of country music,



A Khmer Rouge defector armed with rocket-propelled grenades keeps watch at the site of a helicopter crash near the remote base of Perah Vihear, Cambodia. Khmer Rouge remnants retook the town of Anlong Veng last week, but the movement's demise seems certain. Le Monde, page 13 PHOTO OUNEAKRY

Ukraine voters yearn for Soviet days

James Meek in Moscow

HE Ukrainian president, Leonid There is a much stronger con-Kuchma, insisted last week that sensus about the main priorities and he would continue market reformspre-conditions for development than there ever has been," the UNDP's despite a strong vote for Communists and their socialist chlef administrator, James Speth, said. "We all agree on the right allies in parliamentary elections which left them just short of an policies, on the need for developing absolute majority.

countries to access the benefits of an One pro-government newspaper in Kiev headlined its report Red reasingly globalised market place, and we all know that you can't get Dawn?" after 38 million voters, velopment by economic growth oppressed by poverty, corruption alone. And I stress that this consenand a wages crisis in which; workers sus is not simply among the donor are owed \$3 billion in back-pay, gave community. It has also been forged the four leftwing parties an overall great care and some difficulty to 42 per cent of the vote.

include the developing countries." The liqu's share, 26 per cent, went The idea of co-ordinating deto the Communists, who oppose privatisation, the sale of land and elopment budgets is not new, But attempts to achieve it have proved Ukraine's increasingly close relaisappointing, as many donor tionship with the West. They believe countries see their aid programmes in a planned economy, regret the break up of the Soviet Union, and as ways to increase their national exports or political influence. want closer ties with their fellow ex-Soviet East Slave in neighbouring Russia and Belarus.

The EU and UN said other big aid donors, such as the US, were welcome to join.

The EU promised to help Asia

overcome its financial crisis at the second Asia-Europe conference in London. Twenty-five leaders from the two continents promised to work together to support economic reforms in Asia and resist protectionist pressure.

legislature, the Verkhovna Rada.

any reformist legislation through

Russia and Belarus,

Despite the left's triumph, effectively a shout of anger from the electorate at the failure of seven years of economic decline and halfhearted reform under Mr Kuchma and his predecessor, Leonid into second place with less than Kraychuk, the president said there. 9 per cent of the vote and was would be no return to Soviet . economic methods.

The Communists and two smaller socialist parties looked likely to pick up around 190 seats in the 450-seat -Mr-Kuchma's-hopes of getting

the Rada rest on a wedge of smaller nationalist,., pro-government and centrist parties and 114 non-aligned independents", many of whom are businessmen. : Petro Symonenko, the Commu-

nist leader, said he wanted radical changes to Ukraine's new constitution, to abolish the presidency and to let the biggest party in parliament form the government. He called for "rapprochement", with Russia, and Belarus.

His success was welcomed by the Russian Communist leader, Gennady Zyuganov, who dreams of reuniting the East Slave as a prelude to recreating the Soviet Union, "In Russia, people are increasingly isappointed in democratic parties and movements. The same process is under way in Ukraine," he said.

The election was a disaster for Ukrainian nationalists and centrista. who went to the polls fragmented into dozens of parties. The nationalist standard bearer, Rukh, scraped into second place with less than beaten by Communists in some of its old Kiev strongholds.

Millions of Ukrainlans died as result of the Russian civil war, forced collectivisation and state-inspired famine. Yet the left's electorate sees in the Communists not the Bolshevik ideologues of Lenin's time or Stalin's butchers but the meagre certainties of the three decades when the Soviet Union was ruled by Ukrainians: Nikita

Khrushchev and Leonid Brezhnev. Mr. Kuchma, a former imissile factory boss from Brezhnev's home town of Dnepropetrovsk, has won democratic credentials and delayed reform since election in 1994 by trying to work with parliame rather than without it, as other pos Soviet leaders, in Russia and Central Asia, have done.

· From the perspective of the early 1990s, when the country was gripped by hyper-inflation and its very survival seemed in doubt, today's stable currency and calm, generally free democratic processes are striking achievements. But liberals, pro-marketeers and foreign investors have become as disenchanted as Ukraine's Communists, pensioners and unpaid workers with Mr. Kuchma's hesitancy over reform.

Shortly before the election the International Monetary Fund and from the Alabama cotton Kuchma's government of bad faith. has died, aged 55.



Clinton outruns Republican posse



Martin Kettle

HEN Judge Susan Web-ber Wright threw out Paula Jones's sexual harassment lawsuit against Bill Clinton last week, the Republican leader in the Senate, Mississippi's Trent Lott stressed that the dismissal of the civil suit did not necessarily affect criminal investigations by the ndependent counsel, Kenneth Starr. But he sounded wearily resigned to the fate that now confronts his party

in Congress.
In the next few months Starr will report to Congress that he believes there is a case for Clinton to answer on three counts: that he was involved in suborning perjury in the now defunct Jones case; that he was involved in attempts to intimidate witnesses; and that he lied under oath when he gave his deposition to fones's lawyers.

When that happens, the House of Representatives will have to decide how to handle the issue. Last month Lott was one of the first senior Republicans to urge Starr to get a move on with his increasingly unpopular and problematic investi-

gations. Lott was also one of the first to speculate that Congress, faced with possible impeachment proceed-ings, might decide to ditch responsi-bility and instead confine itself to a motion of censure on Clinton.

Yet within 24 hours of those comments Lott was forced to backtrack. For the past few weeks he has adopted a much more uncompromising anti-Clinton stance. But last week he could only respond: "As there have been so many pieces of bad news and his poll numbers went up, since this appears to be good news for the president, I presume the political numbers will go down."

Lott's remarks show someone floundering wildly in the face of events that threaten to overwhelm his party. Initially, the Clinton scandals caused many Republicans to rub their hands in glee. Now, with the November 1998 mid-term elections imminent, intelligent Republicans are increasingly dismayed at their possible vulnerability in the face of a series of events that some once saw as a great opportunity.

direction of the issue has exposed, is that Starr's investigations have become identified in the public mind as partisan and petty. Having applauded when Starr first embar rassed the president, Republicans now realise that if they fail to handle nis report with skill, it could back-The danger was brought home

ast week by no less an anti-Clinton strategist than the former head of the Christian Coalition, Ralph Reed. He said that Judge Wright's decision demonstrated the pitfalls of Republican reliance on scandals to "weaken the administration and bolster Republicans". The problem was "you end up turning your party's political

than your own". He added: "If these | of the Republican presidential scandals don't pan out, you are weakened by comparison." Technically, the issue for Republi-

cans currently turns on whether Starr's investigations should be turned over to the House judiciary committee — the procedurally correct option - or whether they should be considered by a more ad hoc Congressional body, such as a select committee. Should there be fresh hearings - involving all the usual suspects in the Monica Lewinsky. Jones and Kathleen Willey affairs? And if so, who should conduct them?

This issue has been vigorously, but discreetly, argued in the corridors of Washington over the past few weeks, with Lott and the House Speaker, Newt Gingrich, mostly ressing for the ad hoc solution as a means of distancing the Republican congressional majority from any npeachment momentum.

trate a coherent Republican response to the president's travails and the prospect of impeachment hearings. His idea of an ad hoc committee remains in play as a possibility. But Gingrich, who has cut an equally unconvincing figure in the crisis that now threatens to engulf his party, has also told colleagues that he desperately needs sound advice about procedural options.

nomination in 2000, has consistently

taken the lead in trying to orches-

HE PRESIDENT

TRICKIER THAN

For the political truth remains that Clinton stands to benefit from a a mug's game, and the likelihood that the Republicans will hold on is bungled Congressional investigation. Even if Lott and Gingrich get it right and choose the least contentious or partisan approach to Starr's report, they will still be attacked as vindictive and unpatriotic great for Lott and Gingrich, who by the White House. And if they fail to drive Clinton from office when they have the opportunity, they will be attacked as incompetent by their

about the Starr report that will shape US politics for years to come. Washington Post, page 15

At the beginning of the year to analysis of the political battleficit

could have seriously contemplated

the possibility that the Democrat-

would regain control of Congress in

November. But that possibility is

now taken more seriously. A survey

by the Pew Institute showed be

week that the Democrats had a B

point national lead over the Republ-

cans and stated that the partie

respective standings had been &

rectly affected by the swing to Clir.

To apply national opinion polls to

local contests in the United States in

still strong. But a real contest is nor

In prospect. The stakes are huge for

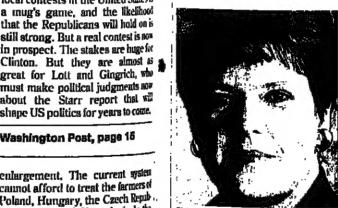
must make political judgments nor

on following the scandals.

opposition Labour party. Helen Clarke, argued that the government had little right to wag its finger at Ms Shipley's coalition governmen has sent to every household a "Code parents when Cabinet ministers of Social and Family Responsibility emselves fail to observe the code. which suggests, among other things, that parents have a duty to love their children. Notions such as these have rarely been sighted in official docu-

> And the prime minister has now gone even further. In a recent speech she suggested that secular education may be an idea whose time has passed. Why, she asked, shouldn't schools be able to teach

Ms Shipley castigated "politically Stories such as these, she said.



Ms Shipley, who last year deposed the previous prime minister. n Bolger, in a caucus coup, has put a unique stamp on her conserva-tive administration. She was elected part because her National party colleagues were concerned about policy drift under Mr Bolger and a lic perception that the party was anduly influenced by the New

outdness has so far paid off -National's ratings have risen in the polls and her personal popularity is high. National was expected easily to win the byelection next month in Mr Bolger's constituency. (He is leaving to be ambassador in Washington.)

How long the honeymoon will ast is hard to say. Ms Shipley herself has acknowledged that her stance is risky but, characteristi-

Responsibility was first mooted by Winston Peters, the senior finance minister and a populist who leads the profoundly unpopular NZF. Mr Peters aimed the code initially at welfare beneficiarles who, he says, were abusing the system and not

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

New Zealand balks at moral crusade

With a code of conduct for parents and talk of reviving

Ms Clarke even took the risky step | spread but by no means universal.

New Zealand has a deep Puritan trasparked controversy. Anthony Hubbard reports

work and caring for their children.

Now the government has extended

The high moral tone of the docu-

ment has drawn allegations of offi-

cial hypocrisy. The leader of the

the code to cover all families.

EW ZEALAND'S first facing up to their responsibilities.

Those who depend on the state, he says, must do their bit by looking for campaign and questioned the country's long-standing ban on religious teaching in state schools. Jenny Shipley, the daughter of a Presby-terian minister, has thereby issued an astonishing challenge to a deeply secular nation wary of political de bates about personal values.

GUARDIAN WEEKLY

been a fierce debate.

piritual and religious values?

orrect" teachers who bent over backwards to ban religion from the assroom. She cited an incident in 1996, when kindergarten teachers in Wellington allegedly removed the crosses from Easter hot cross buns before serving them to the children. just destroy many people's confi-

hose who influence our next

Zealand First party (NZF), the

cally, she refuses to soft-pedal. The controversial Code Of

New Zealand has a deep Puritan tradition and Ms Shipley has tapped whose son had crashed a government car and run away, and a NZF into it. Her Puritanism, moreover, is minister whose son had been an updated one, modified for the arrested for possessing cannabis. nineties. The code says nothing Attacks on the personal lives of

New Zealand. There is a kind of unwritten rule that politicians' private lives are private business. Ms Clarke herself said that in general she strongly supports that approach, but argued that in this case the government has brought it upon itself through its own hypocrisy. Her attack proved unpopular, however, and has not been repeated.

political opponents are very rare in

Opposition to the code is wide-

about divorce, for instance, but merely insists that separated parents have responsibilities for their children. Her cabinet includes a number of separated parents, including Mr Peters.

And Ms Shipley is liberal on matters of sexual behaviour. In an unexpected move for the leader of a conservative party, she made a great show of attending Auckland's Hero parade, a flamboyant display

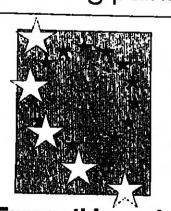
sible return of religious teaching in schools, she is not taking a narrow sectarian view. The vicar may be able to visit the school, she suggests, but so would leaders from Buddhist or other faiths.

She is undoubtedly however, cutting across a strong cultural grain, and the saw could turn in her hands. Critics have already pointed out that the infamous hot cross buns story, for instance is nothing but an urban myth. In fact, the kindergarten teachers served up the buns with the crosses intact, and the newspaper that got the story wrong had to apologise for it.

Moral crusaders, however, are rarely stopped by quibbles about mere facts.

Different strokes, page 19

Gingrich, who harbours dreams Growing pains grip architects of new Europe



Europe this week

THE MOST startling feature of last week's ceremonies of enlargement for the European Union should have come as no surprise. The Inter-Governmental Confer-The current process of managing a ence that preceded the Amsterdam club of 15 nations is already treaty was supposed to devise instiunwieldy. The formal opening of occasions at which 26 nations will routinely sit around a table and discuss | enlarging Europe. It came up with matters of common interest gave a warning that Europe's management is proceeding towards something uncomfortably close to farce.

Take 26 nations, each represented by a prime minister. Give cach one five minutes to make opening remarks (And each count of the cach one five minutes to make opening remarks (And each count of the cach count of the cach one five minutes to make opening remarks (And each count of the cach c

each word to be relayed to the voters back home.) That takes at least two hours.

But the chairman, representing the country currently holding the six-month term of presidency, will need 15 minutes for an opening statement and description of the agenda, and 30 seconds to say thanks to each speaker and to introduce the next one. The chairman will want his place in the sun, and with 26 EU members it will be 13 years before his country has a turn at the chair again.

Such a session will last for almost The EU has known that this prob-

lem of organisation was looming. tutional reforms that would allow the efficient management of an recommendations on majority voting, and on re-weighting the votes of each member state so that a big player such as Britain (nearly

try's press office will ensure that the press corps will want to record reconcile with the parallel need to give the European Parliament a

But overall, the IGC and the Amsterdam treaty process failed to solve the problem. It was left for the future, for another IGC process before the next enlargement, and for a constitutional convention once the number of EU members exceeds 20. That was a cunning ploy. The 15 current members have now begun formal accession negotiations with six new countries, and the goal is to bring them all in during the next decade. That would make 21.

three hours. Break for lunch. Do it again. Break for dinner, and these busy people must then go home.

But one of them is Cypius, which could face a long delay as the EU's problems with Turkey have not been solved and nobody — except But one of them is Cyprus, which Greece - really wants Cyprus in the Union until the questions of the island's division are resolved. So the threshold level of 20 members may not be breached, and the constitutional convention not required, for

some years. Is this good or bad? For a paswill still be no clear governing body of and for Europe. For those Europe Round of the Gatt world trade talks. 60 million people) gets 10 votes and | peans in the tradition of De Gaulle

situation is tolerable. They can usually get deals where they need them and block decisions that they

But the current situation cannot and will not last. Europe currently is governed by a pale imitation of the United States Constitution, in which the legislature (the European Parliament), the judiciary (the European Court of Justice) and the executive (the European Commission) are defined and separate. But on to these weak bodies, with firmly circumscribed powers, has been grafted the Council of Europe, where the individual governments of the 15 ngtion states run the show. The Council is most vulnerable to the complicating effects of enlarge the single currency. From January

Just look at the Common Agricul- EU members will be taken out tural Policy, long the most ludicrous the hands of the member states at product of Euro-bargaining. The CAP is the kind of farm and food | central bankers. Once the power policy you are likely to get from a set interest rates is removed for Council of 15 nation states with different climates, crops, appetites and their own economic policies, a rural voting strengths. It has only ever tried to reform itself under irre-sistible pressure from the outside,

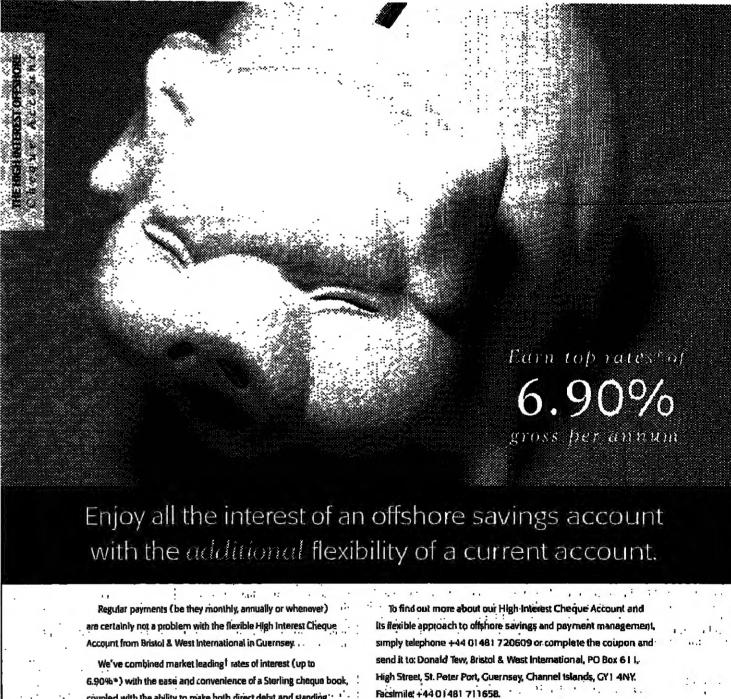
The new European Central Bar -- the US and most of the rest of the is the route through which feder sionate Euro-federalist it is a great disappointment. It means that there will still be no close great it is a great will still be no close great it is a great will still be no close great in the EU's export subsidies as the guments of ministers from 15.20 mini

But the CAP, which still takes up opening remarks. (And each cound simplify and to accelerate decision eration of nation states, the current that faces problems through central bankers.

culargement. The current system cannot afford to treat the farmers of Poland, Hungary, the Czech Repub. ic, Estonia and Slovenia (only the first wave of new entrants) in the same way that it treats the farmers

of the current members. The question is how to reform it Furious Irish, German and Italian farmers took to the streets of Brut sels last week to demonstrate against the commission's mode proposals. The Irish alone chin that they would lose \$420 million more than \$1,50 a week for ever man, woman and child in the can try, and are threatening a veto But bear in mind the other rest

lution that is about to hit Europe entrusted to a group of uneleded even their own tax structures,



coupled with the ability to make both direct debit and standing order payments.

In the would like to open a fle gible High Interest Cheque Account Piesse Uct bib for details on the range of savings occurrings.

West International.

MANE (MATRICALMES 1/5)

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BRISTOL & WEST

RITAIN'S two biggest teaching unions have voted for industrial action over the amount of paperwork that teachers are expected to complete. In a National Union of Teachers (NUT) ballot, 93 per cent of members who voted supported industrial action. The National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers also voted in favour of action. It could put the profession on a collision course with the Government.

The annual conference of the Association of Teachers and Lecturers (ATL) this week was also expected to hear calls for a ballot on excessive paperwork. The ATL is issuing Its members with a questionnaire about bureaucracy and has pledged to back industrial action if members feel there is too much.

Doug McAvoy, the NUT general secretary, said the 28 per cent turnout for his union's ballot was low, but that the burden of paperwork could only be reduced by giving schools more resources. Mr McAvoy has aiready called on the Government to issue directives to local education authorities and head teachers on how to cut the workload. These are expected to be issued by September.

The ATL survey asked 13 questions about the effects of red tape on | realise the reality of teamwork in work and health. Peter Smith, gen- schools."

eral secretary of the ATL, said: "It's not just the Government which is responsible for excessive teacher workloads. The problem is, so much bureaucracy is created by local authorities and schools themselves. If school managers fall to curb [it], ATL will sanction a ballot on industrial action as a last resort."

The Government has already responded to teachers' concerns by establishing a working group on red tape in schools. But teachers' leaders complained that it failed to address the problem because its remit did not extend to schools' statutory duties. Teachers have claimed that legislation due to be passed by Parwork, a conference of headteachers was told last week.

Meanwhile Labour MP Margaret Hodge claimed that linking teach ers' pay to their pupils' academic im provement would motivate and help teachers working in schools that finish in a low league table position.

Ms Hodge also called for a raising of the entry requirements for teacher training, claiming that many colleges were happy to admit trainees with poor A level grades.

The NUT said: "A child's development depends on the work of many teachers, not solely on the efforts of one. Performance-related pay is divisive and Ms Hodge should



'Free Zoora Shah' demonstrators at the High Court at the start of her appeal last week PHOTO JAMES HARD

Abuse 'drove' Asian woman to kill

THE conviction of an Asian woman for murdering a man who had been violent to her was unsafe and should be overturned. the Court of Appeal was told last week, writes Duncan Cambbell.

Cooke led an east London-based

paedophile ring that hired rent boys

or suniched children off the street

in the 1980s. Cooke was convicted

of the murder of a runaway, Jason

Swift, aged 14, and was also named

Zoora Shah, from Bradford, is appealing against her conviction for the murder by arsenic poisoning of Mohamed Azam, aged 47. She was jailed for life in 1993 at Leeds crown court with a recommendation that she serve at least 20 years.

Her counsel, Edward Fitzgerald QC, told Lord Justice Kennedy that Shah had been suffering from diminished responsibility at her trial. She had not told the full story of her treatment at the hands of Azam, a convicted drug dealer, because she did not want to bring shame on her family. She had also been suffering

from a depressive illness. Earlier, Maurice Lipsedge, consultant at Guy's Hospital and a specialist in transcultural psychiatry,

strict Muslim background might have felt unable to tell the truth. She had said that Azam had forced by to have sex with him in exchange for her house, and that she had had to have sex with other men.

Crown counsel Robert Smith QC said that at her trial Shah had lied and had given untrue evidence for

Azam at his trial on drug offences. Judgment will be given later this

Michael White

tion has found.

In order to encourage the firms, ministers in

fiddled the unemployment flored It is now clear the NHS bureaucris

For example, any trust that took the lead in seeking to co-operate of other trusts in consortiums to be shared services had management costs recorded and its budget.

GUARDIAN WEEKLY April 12 1998

In Brief

ROM 2000 the A level exam ination system will be shaken up to allow sixth form pupils to study a wider range of aubjects. combining both academic and vocational qualifications.

ALLS for a review of compensation payments to the victims of crime were made following the disclosure that Josie Russell, aged 11, who survived an attack in which her mother and sister died, had been awarded £18,500 for her loss.

▲ AMPAIGNERS at Fastane peace camp, the country's oldest anti-nuclear site, won a legal battle against eviction.

ASON HUMBLE, the rally driver who killed a young couple by ramming their car across a dual carriageway, was sentenced to 12 years in Jail in one of Britaiu's first road rage anslaughter convictions

BRITAIN'S air traffic control system could face a rise in the number of near misses because of problems with the quipping of a new £350 million computer centre near Southempton that should have opened

Bumpy ride, page 24

OUR children sexually abused by a teenager fostered by their parents won a landmark victory giving them the right to sue the council for negligence in placing him in their home. IT HAS A GOVERNMENT

LAN BLYTHE, who supplied Ahis wife with cannabis to ease her pain from multiple sclerosis, was cleared on three out of four drug-related charges.

SUICIDE attempts by girls in their teens and early 20s are epidemic levels, according to the Samaritans who found that early on in five has tried to kill eraelf before the age of 25.

ETER Boddington, the 60-aday smoker who mounted a We year legal crusade for the right to light up on trains, had his rase stubbed out in the Lords.

HE stepfather of nine-year-old Zoe Evans has been jailed for

A NTHONY-NOEL Kelly was sentenced to nine months in all for using the dissected iuman remains of up to 40 odies as moulds in aculptures.

A NNA FERRETTI, James Hewitt's former flancé, was arrested after stealing his letters from Diana, Princess to Wales, and attempting to sell them to a abloid newspaper.

SIR DEREK Barton, British Nobel Laureate in chemistry, has died in Texas aged 79.

Mitchell presents Ulster plan

John Mullin

EORGE Mitchell, the Northern Ireland talks chairman, on Tuesday finally presented to the participating parties his best guess of where a political settlement lies as serious differences among the parties threatened hursday's deadline for a deal.

Mr Mitchell, who spoke by telephone throughout the evening with Tony Blair and Bertie Ahern, the Irish prime minister, was unable to present the draft agreement that he had planned. Too much disagreenent remained, and his long-awaited locument instead sets out common areas, options and recommendations. The British and Irish govern-

pate intensive discussions." He hoped that there would be no leaks. "Lives and deaths are at stake here. It would be incredible and disturbing if anyone sought to do that

or short-term advantage."

his own document

The Ulster Unionists and the nationalist SDLP were embroiled throughout Monday in argument

power market - if necessary by

The jobs of 10,000 niners,

23 deep-mine collieries and an

ndustry which accounted for 80 per

cent of electricity output until 1990

are at stake in a crisis that must be

"We have to be absolutely con-

vinced of the strategic, economic

"But it would be simply irrational to

market will be taken next month -

before the current power contracts

with the main coal producer, RJB

Mining, run out in June - the Cabi-

resolved in the next two months.

requiring generators to maintain a

minimum level of coal burning.

powers and functions of crossborder bodies. They eventually deassembly. They met at least three cided to lodge separate papers with times in an effort to resolve their Mr Mitchell before he completed differences, but there was no sign of

Mr Mitchell, in upbeat form, said: Mr Mitchell was desperate to put Seeing the issues in a comprehenforward a document by Monday night, aware that time was slipping sive document like this strengthens away. He had planned to pass it to our belief more than ever that a fair the parties last week, and was angry and balanced agreement is possible. We are aware that there remain when Mr Blair and Mr Ahern asked many disagreements, and we anticihim to wait pending their consultations with the Ulster Unionists and Sinn Fein, Although increasingly frustrated, Mr Mitchell said that he pelieved it better that the paper was late and right than on time and

wrong.
It had long been assumed that the parties would be able to agree on the operation of an assembly, but **UK NEWS** 9

Mark Durkan, one of the SDLP's negotiators, denied that. Three strands are being negotiated aimultaneously, avoiding the problems inherent in the sequential deals that led to the demise of the ill-fated Sunningdale agreement 25 years ago.

The SDLP wants a power-sharing executive above the assembly. It is also seeking a sufficiency of consensua approach, effectively giving each community in Northern Ire land a veto over all decisions.

Unionists are demanding a com mittee-style system to run Northern Ireland's six departments. That would mean a weaker assembly than that suggested by the SDLP.

Pleas that the parties should go into purdah once Mr Mitchell produced his document came from Mo Mowlam, the Northern Ireland Secretary, and David Andrews, the Irish foreign affairs minister. They

Blair acts to save mines

ONY BLAIR is preparing to end two decades of government hostility towards the mining industry and lift the threat to thousands of coalfield jobs by acting to guarantee coal a slice of Britain's energy market, ministerial sources say.

The reversal of what the Deputy Prime Minister. John Prescott, last year described as a Tory government vendetta against miners has been agreed in principle by ministers in the face of resistance from civil servanta and privatised electric

ty generators. In a move that marks the limits of New Labour's anti-interventionism the Government is set to carve out for coal a share of between a quar-

CERTIFICATE OF COOL.

net committee in charge of the coal crisis has now settled the central Ministers were faced with three options — allow the "dash for gas" to reduce coal to a cottage industry, manage coal's continued decline or intervene to guarantee a minimum market share.

The government machine favoured the first and second options," one minister involved in the discussions said. "But ministers are packing the third."

The threat to coal stems from the renegotiation of supply contracts to the electricity generators, which have cut by some 12 million tonnes to around 17 million tonnes a year their orders for domestic coal.

UN probes Belfast death

welcomed the contents of a United Nations report published last week which calls for a judicial inquiry into alleged security force collusion in the murder in 1989 of a Belfast criminal awyer, Pat Finucane, writes John Mullin.

The report, drawn up by Malaysian jurist, Param Cumaraswamy, the UN Human Rights Commission special rapand energy case," a minister said. porteur, fuels renewed suspilet the coal industry go under."

Although the final decisions on cions of army and police collaboration in assassination of suspected IRA terrorists. The how to underpin coal's share of the

RUC refused to comment. Mr Cumaraswamy also calls for an independent investigation into threats made to lawyers. He alleges that the RUC engages in "activities

which constitute intimidation hindrance and harassment" of solicitors representing terrorist

His inquiry is the first time the UN has investigated allega-tions of human rights abuses in the Northern Ireland criminal

Mr Cumaraswamy wants the right to silence to be immediately reinstated, and an end to trials without jury, where a judge delivers both verdict and sen-

Five rights organisations — Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, the International Commission of Jurists, the Lawyers Committee for Human Rights, and the International Federation of Human Rights back the findings.

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Paedophiles may be jailed indefinitely

Luke Harding

THE Government said this week it was considering new laws to tock up Britain's most dangerous paedophiles indefinitely, following the furore over the release from jail of child killer Sidney Cooke.

The Home Office may give courts powers to jali child sex attackers until they die. Ministers said that the Crime and Disorder Bill, which was expected to be introduced to the House of Commons this week, would also give police the power to stop paedophiles going near places frequented by children.

Cooke, the most notorious of 150 convicted paedophiles scheduled for release over the next two years. begins a new life in a regional secure unit this week, after the authorities expressed

about his future safety.

can be imprisoned indefinitely only if they have committed the most apwould allow dangerous paedophiles Cooke, who has served nine

released this week. He has agreed

the public is out for him and he The Home Secretary, Jack Straw, | could face an attack."

him should he choose to leave.

palling of offences, A new sentence to be detained indefinitely after their first offence, possibly before they inflict terrible harm."

years of a 16-year sentence for manslaughter, was expected to be to be electronically tagged so police can follow his movements but, because he was sentenced before the introduction in 1992 of new curbs on released sex offenders. there are no legal powers to detain

"He could walk out of the regional secure unit at any time," a Home Office source said. "But he is a very frightened man. He realises

in court as the killer of Mark Tildesley, aged seven, who was abducted from a fairground in Wokingham, Berkshire, in 1984.

Gill Mackenzie, the Chief Probation Officer for Gloucestershire, said the dilemma of what to do with infantous paedophiles "has been severely aggravated by the hysteria that is created"

"The hint and sometimes the reality of vigilantism actually increases rather than reduces the risk to the community. If we know where people are . . . then that will reduce the risk to the community. If they are driven underground and

hounded from pillar to post then that has to increase the risk."

Although Mr Livingstone is confor it," said Mr Banks. "After I've | ment; and that his bill for a week-

because it's a great job.' Mr Banks and Mr Livingstone are friends from the GLC days though the two have different lives outside favourite politicians during their time together at the Greater London 1970 and was chairman in the year stone; Chelsea Football Club for Council (GLC) in the 1970s and of its demise, was best loved for his Mr Banks.

Aitken police

COTLAND Yard has sent a report to the Crown Prosecution Service about allegations against the former Tory cabinet minister Jonathan to pervert the course of justice during his failed libel trial last

The police file will now be reached. Perjury carries a maxi-

Included in the file is an assessment of the roles played by Mr Aitken's daughter Victoria, aged 17, and his former Saudi business associate, Said Ayas, In supporting his atory at the trial, which collapsed after two weeks. but never gave evidence. All three were arrested and inter-

Mr Aitken had sued the Guardian and Granada's World in Action for allegations that he tried to procure women for his Arab friends; that he was dependent on the Saudi royal family: that he acted improperty as a minister for defence procureend at the Paris Ritz in 1993

was paid for by Saudi friends. After the stories appeared in April 1995 Mr Altken, the then Chief Secretary to the Treasury, vowed to fight what he called

Tories 'hid' health costs

ORE than £100 million in man agement costs were hidden within the National Health Service budget because of "perverse incertives" imposed on health managers by Tory ministers under their controversial internal market reforms a Department of Health Investiga

contracting out of services such s cleaning and laundry to private services should not be recorded s

tracted out services look more eff cient, according to a study by the NHS executive on behalf of the etary, Frank Dobson

North Staffordshire Trust.
The health minister, Alan Millouri, said: "Everyone knows the Toris

Thatcher/Major era ruled that the management costs of running such

management costs.

That made hospitals which of

If the true costs of management were equalised—as they will trunder new rules—the bill rises to almost £1.5 million at the Guy's St Thomas's Hospital Trus London, and by 21.2 million in the

figures were fiddled as well." Officials evaluating exists definitions found that hospitals be been given perverse incentive.

Court rejects housing plans

THE Government faced fresh levelonment this week after the High Court ruled that the Deputy Prime Minister, John Prescott, had breached his department's guidelines when he agreed a plan for 113 new homes in a south coast resort.
The court ruled that Mr Prescott

should not have cleared plans for a housing development on greenfield land at Peacehayen, East Sussex, which prompted widespread local

Meanwhile the future of another of the country's most controversial planned developments was also cast into doubt as Labour-run Hertfordshire county council voted to delay plans for 10,000 houses to the west of Stevenage. The scheme, which would involve the biggest incursion

into green belt land since the sec ond world war and has prompted fierce protests from residents, will agreed to ask Mr Prescott to review the housing target for the county.

the double setback for development, The charity's housing campaigner, Simon Festing, said Mr Prescott "cannot ride roughshod over the opinions of local people by allowing so much greenfield development". In the Peacehaven case, Mr Justice Harrison said Mr Prescott, Sec-

erred in law when he gave the scheme his blessing last November. The judge said the minister had failed properly to consider the strategy of Lewes district council of focusing local development away

from the over-crowded coastal strip.

retary of State for the Environment,

Transport and the Regions, had

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Banks enters race for mayor John Duncan and Lucy Patton TONY BANKS has confirmed he is ready to go up against Ken Livingstone to stand as Labour's

ers vote for a mayor in next month's Mr Banks, MP for Newham North West and sports minister, joins Mr Livingstone as the only two declared candidates for the job. Mr Banks and Mr Livingstone were the capital's

candidate for London mayor, while

Chris Smith emerged as the Cabi-

net's favourite candidate if London-

1980s. Mr Smith, the Culture Secretary, was reported as having the

> There were reports that if Mr Downing Street, the transport minister, Glenda Jackson would be prepared to stand aside to prevent the vote being split. Ms Jackson was an early front-runner and her strategists are preparing to launch her campaign after the referendum. Private poils of Labour activists,

backing of senior Cabinet members. Smith stood with the backing of however, are said to show Mr Livingstone well ahead of Ms Jackson.

attempt to ban the County Hall champagne bar for being élitist and for inviting Miss Whiplash to hold a

sidered too leftwing for current Labour tastes, the party desperately needs a populist candidate with London credibility to take on a possible high-profile campaign by Jeffrey Archer. "I'm definitely going to go seen the terms and conditions of course. I'm going to go for it,

book launch at the same venue.

file reviewed

Aitken of perjury and conspiracy

reviewed by a CPS lawyer before a decision on a prosecution is

mum sentence of seven years.

viewed last month.

"wicked lies". His case finally collapsed in the High Court last June.

ORE than half the uniformed stoff-and formed staff at the flagship prison hit by brutality allegations refused to turn up to work last week by reporting in sick as an investigation started at the jail.

The action by more than 100 prison officers at Wormwood Scrubs in London was defended by the Prison Officers' Association, which claimed that the brutality allegations had led to officers "breaking down in tears" and their families being abused.

The mass refusal to work on sickness grounds halted normal life Inside one of Europe's largest prisons, with the 1,300 immates locked in their cells for most of the day, and work and education classes cancelled. Prison officers are legally banned from taking industrial action and the "mass sickie" was widely seen as an attempt to get round the law.

More than 80 managerial staff from other London prisons and from Prison Service headquarters were drafted in to run the segregation unit - scene of most of the alleged brutality incidents - and other put to of the pricon.

The Director-General of the Prison Service, Richard Tilt, said "it was not a huge coincidence" that so many prison officers had reported in sick. "We must assume that this

ing for the inmates, last week gave the Metropolitan police a dossier detailing the allegations that have led to the suspension of eight prison officers and a senior manager.

The Prison Service was alarmed by the protest action, with Mr Tilt saying the refusal to report for duty "did nothing to enhance the reputation of prison officers". He added that support was being made available for staff who were "genuinely suffering from stress".

The disclosure that the senior officer in charge of the jail's segregation unit — the punishment block is among those suspended on full pay and facing a disciplinary hearing, implies serious management failings at the prison.

Allegations include accusations of racism, beatings and intimidation. One inmate has claimed that he was assaulted by staff almost every day for a month while another claimed his head had been stamped on and banged against a wall. In one case the allegations amount to a claim of

gations were moved out of the jail under armed guard last week for their own protection amid claims of renewed intimidation by prison officers. Most of the prisoners who allege they were beaten are black, and the dossier includes claims that one man was forced to eat a "Black is Beautiful" poster that had been ripped from his cell wall.

Animals infected as new tests launched into origins of BSE

N EW multi-million pound tests have been launched on cattle, sheep and mice in a bid to crack the causes of the BSE epidemic.

Top security buildings are being constructed to house the animals, including cows that have been deliberately infected with different doses of BSE and strains of scraple - a similar condition in sheep — In an attempt to understand the disease.

A flock of a sheep has also been imported from New Zealand which has never had scrapie - to act as a control group. Scraple is thought never to have been transferred to humans, but its cattle equivalent, "mad cow disease", is believed to have infected 24 people. In the past 10 years £80 million

has been spent on researching animal and human strains of the condition that affects the brain and | secretary, Stephen Dorrell, agreed central nervous system.

More than 170,000 cows have been diagnosed as having BSE and | able human condition, Creutzfeldt-2 million have been destroyed in measures designed to protect the human food chain and end the European Union ban on exports.

A number of theories have been put forward for the crisis, including one that scraple from sheep was transferred into cattle through their feed. Other explanations include cows being infected through eating | tween the stools of a food industry

prion proteins were deformed into Infectious agents by organo

Scientists are also testing potatoes and the leaves of the daisy, toadflax, bindweed and other English plants to see whether they played a part in the BSE epidemic because cows ate them. Govern ment-funded institutes conducting experiments are also hoping to discover chemicals in the plants that offer clues for a cure for the disease sa well as its cause.

Meanwhile a doctor told the BSE inquiry last week how he endured ridicule after issuing the first alert about the risk of BSE infecting humans — nearly eight years before ministers admitted he could be right.

Tim Holt had been out of medical school a year when he raised the alarm in 1988. Yet it was not until March 1996 that the then health there was a possible link between BSE and a new variant of the incur-Jakob Disease.

Dr Holt and Julie Phillips, a dietician, wrote an article on the possible risks to human health in the British Medical Journal in June 1988, thought to be the first entry in medical literature on the issue.

Dr Holt said he wrote it because "the BSE issues were falling beinfected by undiagnosed cases of BSE.

But money is also now being devoted to researching other causes, including the possibility that internet poll of more than 2 million internet poll of more th

Cool Britannia gets official stamp of approval

THERE was good news and bad news for Cool Britannia last week, writes Dan Glaister. The bad news was that ice-cream mogula Ben & Jerry are to drop their Cool Britannia flavour. The good news was the ancinting of 202 officially approved Cool A day after the Government

unveiled Powerhouse::UK, an exhibition celebrating British design, and named a panel of creativity and design abroad, Tony Blair unveiled the first tranche of Millennium Products.

Cyber-creatures, a liquid-gas orry, a "smart" material and a science discovery centre are some of the first wave of prod-

HE COMPANY whose chairman

was found guilty of trying to bribe Richard Branson has been

dumped as a shareholder in Camelot,

G-Tech, which has been battered

by bad publicity following the alle-

gations concerning Guy Snowden,

products will have received the Millennium Products endorsement, and will be shown in the Millennium Dome at Greenwich Other products included Skystreme, a reflective device to

help rescuers find people lost on mountains. It can be used as a thermal vest or even a splint. But not everything is cool in Britannia, An all-in-one swimming mask covering eyes and nose re-ceived the thumbs down, as did an alternative hot water bottle

for warming in a microwave.

The initiative was launched by the Prime Minister last year to identify and promote innovative British products. About 1,000 companies responded, and were judged by a panel of 50 people, including media figures such as

small designers.

Meanwhile the 33 members of the nation's cool warriors on Panel 2000 held their first meeting. The task force - including

Germaine Greer and Peter

Snow, and designers such as

James Dyson, inventor of the

The initiative is the latest ef-

fort to boost the fortunes of Cool

Britannia. Run by the Design Council, Millennium Products

links some of the biggest names

in British industry, such as Ford, Marks & Spencer, British Airways and British Steel, with

bagless vacuum cleaner.

dress designer, Stella McCartey and Channel 4 presenter Zeinsb Badawi - is charged with leading a "full frontal attack on the myth of a tired Britain".

Lottery operator dumps US shareholder

in the best interests of lottery play

ers," a statement from Camelot said.

lottery commission comes after the

Peter Davis, reaigned over the Store den affair. Mr Davis had accepted

free flights from G-Tech while visi

John Stoker, sald: The commission

Mr Davis's successor at Offol

ing the US to look at lotteries.

previous director general of Olot,

The announcement of a gen

of G-Tech after a jury found against him over the bribery allegations.

Demands that G-Tech sever all

agreed to sell its 22.5 per cent share to the other main shareholders. In a separate move, the Culture Secretary, Chris Smith, announced that a five-strong Lottery Commission would replace the post of lot-

historical wish is gratified this of humanidad this century".

Sadly — for her purposes — she | tury have aroused, in their lifetime,

Camelot has been struggling to

week. A poll brackets her with

utionaries" of the 20th century.

John Ezard

entangled in the bribery allegations against Mr Snowden, who led the Camelot bid to run the lottery and of the National Lottery, and that its was a director of the company until his resignation in February. Mr Snowden also resigned as chairman

links with the lottery have not been met. The United States company will still be paid by Camelot for providing the lottery machines where millions buy their tickets every week. Oflot, the Government-appointed regulator, is still investigating whether the company is fit to have

any relationship with Camelot.

Time's choice of profile writers is

writes: "Few politicians of this cen-

will have five members and will be serviced by Offot Its introduction will reduce the risk, actual or perceived, of conflicts of interest in restore its reputation after it became | *Camelot believes that this is the | remove the focus on an indiv

Thatcher makes century's top 20 list people by Time magazine of those | 1980s and 1990s, and help who have most influenced the mankind end the millennium as mankind end the millennium of 1

note of hope and confidence ARONESS Thatcher's dearest | course of world events and the fate | The rest of the list is: Room s Reagan, Franklin, Eleanor man Theodore Roosevelt, Pope John Paul II, Mahatma Gandhi, Israel founding prime minister David Jes Gurion, Mikhail Gorbachev He Cil Winston Churchill as one of the two greatest British "leaders and revo and Nobel Prize-winner Elie Wiesel Minh, Martin Luther King,

GUARDIAN NEBOT

UK NEWS 11

Britain to repay Nazi victims

Richard Norton-Taylor

HE Government last week apologised for the way Britain treated hundreds of Holocaust dctims whose assets it selzed during the second world war and never repaid, healing a sore that has been festering for more than 50 years.

The Trade and Industry Secretary, Margaret Beckett, also an-nounced a special claims procedure or Jews whose property and money were taken by the wartime government under "trading with the enemy" laws. An initial £2 million will be made available, she said.

Her apology was prompted by the publication of a Foreign Office report that contains damning evidence of postwar Whitehall's lack of sympathy with Jews and other persecuted individuals who deposited their assets in what they regarded as a safe haven.

The decision to establish an independently monitored claims proredure, taken after consultations with Downing Street, is a significant (Jurn. Less than a week earlier, Mrs Beckett was preparing to au-

UK anthrax 'sold to Iraq'

Michael White

THE Foreign Office was investigating claims last week that authrax strains from the Government's biological warfare establishment at Porton Down in Wiltshire were sold to a United States firm that sold

them on to Iraq.
The allegations, which go beyond previous admissions that British and Swiss firms sold huge quantities of anthrax to Saddam Hussein's regime in the late 1980s, were made by the liberal Democrate in a renewed impaign for tighter controls on military exports.

Last month the Sun newspaper

eported that an all-ports alert ad been issued over the possibilly that Iraq was amuggling nthrax into Britain as a potent retaliation" against attack on its suspected chemical and bioogical weapons sites. As with previous alarms involving Iraq, critics warned that public pinion was being manipulated

to justify military action against if Former military leaders, achiding General Sir Michael Rose, have joined Amnesty and Oxfam in protesting that the overnment is not doing enough atrol arms exports, and isks a fresh scandal, Britain has 22 per cent of the world arms sales market, second only to the US.

Opening his party's Commons debate on the arms trade, the Ub Dem defence and foreign ^{alfairs} spokesman, Menzies Campbell, said that new US research showed that Britain had slaid the foundations for the had blological and chemical weapons" that prompted the narrowly averted ahowdown between the United Nations and Baghdad, Mr Campbell said ière was an dirresistible inference that some of the anthrex that Iraq obtained originated in Britain.

nounce a one-off compensation | regrets this, and I would like to fund. But Jewish groups dismissed | apologise to those individuals and to her proposed fund as "conscience

The Foreign Office also made clear that setting up a charitable fund would be unacceptable, especially against the background of the controversy surrounding last month's visit by the Foreign Secretary, Robin Cook, to the Har Homa Jewish settlement in Israeli-occupied Arab territory, and of the Prime Minister's impending visit to Israel. Mrs Beckett conceded that offi-

assets were "sometimes insensitive to the plight of Nazi victims". She added: "The Government deeply

cials responsible for handling seized

apologise to those individuals and to their relatives and descendants. A different attitude would be expected now." She said she wished to make clear the Government was "revolted" by Nazi persecution.

Although the Foreign Office report goes out of the way to emphasise the difficulties facing postwar Whitehall with conflicting claims and Nazi money-laundering, it makes clear that officials gave priority to claims by British companies - whose foreign assets had been seized by the enemy - over those by individuals.

It quotes one official, R R Whitty, as saying: "I have every sympathy

with Jews (and others) who have suffered in the concentration camps, but I do not know how you will distinguish between the Jew who has been persecuted because of his race or religion, and one who has been sent to a concentration camp against the law of his country." Whitehall argued at length about

what was meant by "deprivation of liberty" in Germany and Nazioccupied countries, with the Treasury insisting it might be difficult to distinguish "between the refugee from Nazi oppression and the rat leaving the sinking ship". The report describes how White-

hall officials enthusiastically opened private bank sales if it was suspected they contained gold or currency. But the postwar government's attitude was far from consistent. All frozen

Polish assets in Britain, including those of dead Holocaust victims were returned to the new commu nist government in Warsaw, which kept them. Yet individual Austrians, including Nazis, were handed back

Ninety per cent of the value of "enemy assets" selzed have already been distributed, leaving an esti mated £60 million in today's money. It is estimated that up to £10 million could still be owed to Jews and other Nazi victims. The Government is to publish the 25,000 names of those whose assets were seized and whose records exist.

Lord Janner, chairman of the Holocaust Educational Trust, welcomed the Government's decision. "Justice has been delayed and denied for far too long. Now there is



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Land of the rising sums

T IS NOT often that governments urge their citi zens to go out on a binge and spend, spend spend. But that is exactly what is happening in Japan as the country tries to stave off what could be a very serious recession with ominous implications for Asia and the rest of the world. Having failed to stimulate the economy so far with four successive reflationary packages (and a fifth in the pipeline), the government has torn up the economics textbooks and launched an advertising campaign instead. It has taken space in 22 magazines and on 22,000 poster sites imploring people to go out and spend.

This approach addresses the economy's most pressing short-term problem — lack of consumer demand — but it won't necessarily work. The Japanese are becoming so afraid of their financial futures and so mistrustful of government that they prefer simply to save rather than spend. One of the few booming markets in Japan is for home safes, where people can keep their cash secure from prying governments and dodgy banks. The Japanese now save more than 30 per cent of their disposable income, the highest ratio for more than 25 years.

The Japanese economy is not yet a basket case but could easily become one if fear becomes endemic. Its manufacturing sector is still a formi-dable wealth-creating machine (albeit hit by the collapse of markets at home and elsewhere in East Asia). It has low inflation and a huge balance of payments surplus. But there is a paralysis of decision-making at the heart of government, a financial sector dripping with bad debts and a stock market that has just taken a bath. Last week the first of the "Big Bang" deregulation reforms took effect. Over time these could help reform by allowing weaker banks to go to the wall, leaving the field open for stronger Japanese firms and ambitious overseas ones. But in the short-term liberalisation of foreign exchange regulations is likely to encourage fearful investors to desert domestic savings (offering minute interest rates) in favour of attractive foreign stocks. This will be offset if Japanese organisations feeling the squeeze repatriate some of the vast assets they have accumulated abroad, but there's bound to be a net outflow of cash which will depress the already undervalued yen — thereby compounding Asia's woes.

The short-term problem was unquestionably caused by the government's ill-advised decision to raise value added tax a year ago. Consumers spent heavily in the months leading up to the increase, and then abruptly stopped. The obvious answer is to reverse that decision. But even so, there is no guarantee that recipients won't just add the surplus to their savings. The five packages

Y BECOMING the first nuclear weapons states to carry out ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), Britain and France have announced by the government are a mixture of measures to stabilise the banking system, modest tax cuts and public spending increases. The trouble is that support is being given to bad banks as well as good ones, while the spending has become embroiled in the pork-barrel politics of the ruling Liberal Democratic party as it woos voters in the run-up to the general election.

Japan has a problem Britain would love to have: excess savings. But that doesn't make a solution any easier. Consumers should spend more and corporations ought to invest more. But if they don't, government will have to spend it for them on real projects, not pre-electoral confections. In case that doesn't work, the rest of the world had better be on standby. The world's second biggest economy is too vital to be left to go belly-up.

New perils in Israel

HOEVER killed the Second Engineer matters much less than the likely consequences These could be as severe as those that have almost destroyed the Middle East peace process since Israeli agents killed the No 1 of the Hamas terrorist organisation two years ago. There is a difference between the killings. Last week the prime minister. Binyamin Netanyahu, was quick to deny that Israeli intelligence had anything to do with the death of Muhi al-Din Sharif, shot dead on the West Bank late last month. He may even be telling the

Yahya Ayyash was blown up in Gaza, in a killing that led to a wave of retaliatory suicide attacks—and to the electoral victory of the Likud party and Mr Netanyahu himself. But in the situation today, where a single spark may start a fire, a denial has

Even without this killing, the latest United States initiative is already in a desperate state of dither. The administration cannot decide whether to continue playing along with Mr Netanyahu's strategy of nal concessions that can be claimed to keep the peace process "alive". The Israeli acceptance, 20 years late, of United Nations Resolution 425 on withdrawal from Lebanon - but only subject to "security arrangements" — is a more transparent diversion. Or should Bill Clinton go public with a plan that would shift the burden of decision back onto the Israelis? Such a plan - the "13 per cent pullback" of Israeli forces from the West Bank does not appear to have been formally delivered by the US envoy, Dennis Ross. Nor does Mr Netanyahu's supposed counter-offer (which he, too, has formally denied) of 11 per cent. Yasser Arafat seems inclined to accept the US proposal though it falls far short of Palestinian demands.

This is all shadow boxing. The issue is rather which side is more willing to risk a total breakdown of the peace process. Mr Arafat from his weaker position continues to make the greater concessions: Mr Netanyahu pleads weakness in the shape of domestic hawks, but plays from what he perceives as strength.

The suggestion that the Palestinian Authority might have arranged the death of Hamas's No 2 to demonstrate its commitment to Israeli "security" defies commonsense. No one knows better than Mr Arafat that in a real explosion his power base would be the first victim. For any Israeli leader to countenance an action that could trigger a return to bombings also seems an act of huge folly. Yet the deed can only have been committed with the intent of wrecking what remains of the peace process.

The signal that this sends should be felt everywhere, particularly in Washington, Mr Clinton is said to be unconvinced that an open clash with Mr Netanyahu is good tactics - but since when did a compromise plan amount to confrontation? Next month's visit to Israel by the British Prime Minister, Tony Biair, should become part of a concerted effort. If quiet diplomacy will not break the deadlock, a louder version must be tried.

Big bang and a whimper

given the process a small nudge that may encourage the other three overt nuclear powers. A united front of all five is the minimum requirement for moving forward. Alas, the minimum is not enough.

One reason is that the CIBT needs 44 named states to ratify it. These include India and Pakistan, who have no intention of signing. But there is also widespread scepticism that the treaty merely legitimises the dominance of the nuclear five. As Robert Bell, arms control director at the United States National Security Council put it, "the point of the treaty is to ban the bang, not to ban the bomb". Only last week the Los Alamos National Laboratory was said to be producing plutonium triggers in order to "prepare a reserve supply if

It is true that the very existence of the treaty may letters from Czech and Slovak make it harder for a would-be nuclear power to develop weapons. The International Monitoring System now being set up will make it virtually impossible to avoid detection. It is true too that failure to conclude the treaty would have set back the cause of nuclear restraint significantly. It may also be argued that the South Asian problem has its own dynamic that was never going to respond to appeals for self-denial. Yet in the end the blatant character of the nuclear monopoly must reduce the credibility of the treaty and encourage "rogue"

nuclear states to ignore it. Cynicism will only be dispelled by visibly serious Cynicism will only be dispelled by visibly serious efforts to scale down arsenals to a real minimum in the spirit of the pledge given by the five when negotiating the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. The British Foreign Secretary, Robin Cook, said this week that Britain's CTBT ratification signalled a commitment to a nuclear weapons-free world. With the non-nuclear option excluded even from the curvent defence conform the constitution of the pledge given by the five when negotiating the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. The British Foreign Secretary, Robin Cook, said this plying at an alarming rate, as bits fall off them and start new ones, like starfish. I'm sure it is the case that, if everyone steered at the same were warned in the eighties we benefit in Britain to fill wenter to support the growing army of old people. The old, it seems, are multiported from the correct of the pledge given by the five when a support the growing army of old people. The old, it seems, are multiported from the correct of the pledge given by the five when a support the growing army of old people. The old, it seems, are multiported from the correct of the pledge given by the five when a support the growing army of old people. The old, it seems, are multiported from the correct of the provided from the correct of the plant of the provided from the correct of the plant of the provided from the correct of the plant of the provided from the correct of the plant of the provided from the correct of the plant of the provided from the correct of the plant of the provided from the correct of the plant of the provided from the correct of the plant of the provided from the correct of the plant of the provided from the correct of the plant of the provided from the plant of the provided from the provided from the plant of the plant of the provided from the plant of the provided from the plant of the plant of the plant of the plant of the pla truth. In January 1996 Israell sources were only to happy to nudge and wink after "the Engineer" the in some startish. In sure it is the case that, too happy to nudge and wink after "the Engineer" too happy to nudge and wink after "the Engineer" too happy to nudge and wink after "the Engineer" to nudge and wink after "the Engine

No more rich ethnicity please, we're British

Jeremy Hardy

HE British Home Secretary, Jack Straw, was reassuring us last week that Labour was not soft on asylum claims. He is so adamant that I feel it would be just and suitable nemesis were it to transpire that his son has been selling forged travel documents in Sierra Scary Immigration stories have

been coming thick and fast since a small number of Romanies arrived in Dover last year. To demonstrate what a hold this mythology has on impressionable minds, I shall quote barrister who was defending a wealthy Swiss banker caught shoplifting in Harrods last December. Richard St Clair-Gainer told Horseferry Road magistrates: "This not some Gypsy from some part of Czechoslovakia, who has come here to go into our stores and steal with a gang."
But in the past couple of weeks

the British have been told that they are besieged mainly by Turks, Africans, Russians and ethnic Albanians - and all because of the bloody Belgians. It seems that they are sending huddled masses to Britain on the Eurostar. I think what galled the rightwing papers most was the fact of refugees travelling on a comfortable train. To qualify as a genuine asylum-seeker, one is expected to arrive clinging to a leaky raft, with only a tiny radio tuned to

the BBC World Service. Clearly, it is appalling that some other European countries are dumping refugees in Britain, but only because it means that they are expelling refugees. The Belgians are being attacked for the wrong reason. The real victims are the people dumped. I am at a loss to understand how anyone can feel hostile towards people who are trying to start a new life. They are called "spongers" and "cluncers", who are milking the benefit system. But nowhere do we see the suggestion that we need to get refugees off ben-efit and into work. Indeed, anyone caught working without a permit is

mmediately arrested and deported. And nowhere has any xenophobe ointed out that if the European Jnion were to expand to include Russia, Turkey and the former Yugoslavia, then anyone from thoseplaces would be entitled to come to Britain to live and work. If the Czech Republic and Slovakia were admitted, I guess all their Gypsies patriots insisting that their Roma-

nies are definitely not stateless. This is not an anti-EU tirade; It's merely an observation. I don't mind. who lives where and I'm not quaking in my boots about the 15 European countries who might be considering dumping their entire populations on Britain.

Living in fear of what might happen drives people mad. In the sixties we were all terrified of the birth rate and in the eighties we.

time, the Earth would be thrown of its axis, but I think it's best to get a with life none the less.

I do get distracted worder how many racist South Africans are entitled to flee democracy and make their homes in Britain, and I can say I'm overly fond of the Swiss; he if my street starts to hum with the pong of Boerwurst and foodse, Il just have to deal with it.

I dare say that some people who claim that they are fleeing person-tion are fibbing, but even then you can't blame them, because its extremely hard to migrate if you give any other reason. You're to allowed to flee poverty, for example.
That's "economic" so it doesn' count. Britain has drawn a line at! said, "We are proud of the riches a of our ethnic diversity, and gratel. for your contributions to spot catering, young people's music at brightly-coloured fabric; but we don't want any more of you that you very much.

It's hard to know whether asyluz claims are "genuine" because it highly subjective. We keep reading the word "bogus" but all it means that immigration officials, whose job it is to keep foreigners out of ik country, have rejected an application. When I think of someone who

No one seems to consider that it's very traumatic to uproot yourself and try to start all over again

has fied racism, religious persection or war, nervously spe through an interpreter while a did scrvant asks: "When you say ju were beaten, were you cut or merely bruised?" it puts me in mind of the cross-examination of rape victims.

Last week the Law Lords who an appeal by the Home Secretary to the effect that, from now on, men bers of a persecuted group have to prove that they are more likely to be persecuted than other members of that group. In other words, the set that not everybody in the work wants or is able to come to British held against those who do.

No one seems to consider their that it's a very traumatic thing but root yourself and leave a home, a family and friends and try to state over again in another part of its world; and yet, when we think dis Jews who perished in the every one of us with a heart with that they'd all got out in time. Now it seems the Home

plans to chuck asylum application out within 10 days of the rejects to make it very hard for people appeal. It is because the decisions bureau contraction and the reservements are a second to the reservements. bureaucrats are rightly open to its challenge that there are so min people in Britain of uncertain that Even then, there aren't that min The Sun newspaper says that then are enough asylum seekers benefit in Britain to fill Wenter Wembley Stadium.

PREFECTURE DE BORDEAUX

10 ANS ? POUR UN PETIT 2

TAMPON DE ?!

Was justice really served?

COMMENT lerre Georges

GUARDIAN WEEKLY

HE news came over the agency wires as "urgent" shortly after 9am on ipril 2. The jury at the sixmonth trial of Maurice Papon a Bordeaux had just sentenced be defendant to 10 years' imprisament for complicity in crimes

The jurors handed down their sentence according to their "in-nermost conviction", as the law requires. Papon was guilty. But only of complicity, and not of complicity in everything. He was deemed to have been an accomplice to the arrest and illegal finement of four of the eight goups of Jews who, between 1942 and 1944, were sent by train from Bordeaux to the rancy transit centre near Paris n their way to Nazi death camps. But he was not found to have beso an accomplice to murder. In other words he was a semi-

complice, according to a semierdict. It is not customary to omment on court sentences, specially so soon after the went. But in this case the accused himself commented on he nature of the verdict before

it was handed down. On April 1, in his final statement to the court, Papon asked: "Is there any such thing as a 10, 15, 30 or 60 per cent crime against

"This [kind of] crime cannot be divided up. It's all or nothing - either I'm guilty or I'm inno-

Let us admit that from a purely logical point of view a crime against humanity cannot be cut up into sections, and that guilt or the length of a sentence cannot be calculated according to the percentage of responsi-

In Papon's view, what does 10 years represent? Ten, 15, 30 or 60 per cent? It is either too much or, given the number of lives and families annihilated by the Nazis, not nearly enough. Papon was quite right to talk

of "all or nothing". There could not be a verdict that saw him just as a modest, secondary, ubordinate and unconsci accomplice to a crime against humanity — a "paper player' as someone described him.

Nor could there be a ruling that treated him as a collaborator in the Holocaust against his will, a senior French administration official forced to supply victims to an all-powerful German Nazi machine, when he so zealously and efficiently drew up the lists of those to be deported. They were not just "paper"

lists. They were made of flesh and blood; of men, women and children whose names went on the lists solely because they

were Jewish, whose sole "crime" was to have been born Jewish. In ruling that Papon had not been an accomplice to murder, the court accepted the argument that the man who drew up those lists was unsware of the appalling fate that awaited the help-

less people who had been identified, registered, rounded up and dispatched in cattle rucks. The court did its duty: it followed its "innermost conviction" after a gruelling trial - the longest in postwar French legal

One may, I think, be forgiven for not sharing that conviction, in view of what Papon had told the court several months earlier on December 19 he admitted that he knew the trainloads of Jews were being sent to concen tration camps, and described their fate as a departure towards

Cambodia braces for a rough ride to elections

Jean-Claude Pomonti n Phnom Penh

BY greatly reducing the last pocket of Khmer Rouge resistance in the far north of the country, Cambodia's strongman, Hun Sen, has strengthened his hand in the fraught run-up to the elections in

The Khmer Rouge have suffered a serious setback at their sole remaining atronghold, near the town of Anlong Veng on the Thai border. Several of their units recently rebelled against the movement's ageing leadership. With the help of troops loyal to Hun Sen, these Khmer Rouge renegades are now fighting for control of the military base.

This development conveniently diverted attention from the return of King Norodom Sihanouk's son, Prince Norodom Ranariddh, to Phnom Penh last week. Last July, while he was on a trip abroad, Ranariddh was overthrown as Cambodia's senior prime minister by Hun Sen, the second prime minister.

On March 29 the Royal Army, which has been under Hun Sen's control since Ranariddh deposed, escorted a group of Cambodian journalists to a point 15km rom the Thai border where Khmer Rouge forces in the foothills of the Dangrek mountains were being subjected to artillery fire. The journalists were taken to within 2km of the homes of Ta Mok and Khieu Sampan, two Khmer Rouge leaders who have been on the run since

some of their troops rebelled.

The Khmer Rouge forces admited that up to 5,000 civilians had fled he combat zone, but claimed still to be in control, General Im Nguon, the Khmer Rouge military commander, said that forces led by Ta Mok, Pol Pot's presumed successor, "could probably mop up the sector

within two or three days".

The Thai military, which has been monitoring the situation, said that the Anlong Veng sector had not yet fallen to the rebel Khmer Rouge, who had received support from the Royal Army, The Thais added that, contrary to

claims from Phnom Penh, the ruins

of Preah Vihear, 65km to the east, were still in the hands of Khmer Rouge forces loyal to Ta Mok and

Even if the Khmer Rouge suc-ceed in regaining control of the situation, the fighting and desertions are bound to sap the strength of a rebellion that is now being waged by only 2,000-3,000 isolated

The Royal Army chiefs have said that they will try to capture the Khmer Rouge old guard alive. That may include Po! Pot himself, who is believed to have followed Ta Mok and Khieu Sampan to their hideout. On March 29 Bangkok denied having received a request for political asylum from the two Khmer Rouge

Meanwhile, in a more strained atmosphere than usual, the political opposition in Cambodia swung back turned to Phnoin Penh as a result of a deal between King Sihanouk, now in the Chinese capital, Beijing, and the Hun Sen government.

When the prince of Bangkok he was met at the airport by 400 party activists and a posse of reporters. Hundreds of supporters ined the road from the airport. A few hours earlier, in the company of several hundred supporters, another leading opposition figure, Sam Rainsy, had commemorated the first anniversary of the grenade attack that killed at least 1? people and wounded about 150 a year ago. Rainsy, who is also standing at the July election, survived the attack, which was intended to kill him.

The return of Ranariddh, who was granted a royal pardon after being sentenced by a judiciary he does not recognise, is part of a Japanese-brokered plan that aims to get the prince's last remaining armed supporters re-integrated into the Royal Army so that a "free and honest" election can be held.

But Sihanouk, responding to a request from Hun Sen, made it clear that he would not pardon Rana-riddh's military chiefs. So it looks as though the run-up to July's election s going to be a bumpy one.

(March 31)

Russia's mafia strides into the political limelight

ophie Shihab in Moscow

TATIME when observers are the Byzantine intrigues going on in the Kremiln, two Russian provinces have been rocked by scandals that provide alarming evidence that the country's home-grown mafia is daying an increasing role in

One of the cases involves General Alexander Lebed, who has reemerged from semi-obscurity to make a bld for the post of governor of the region of Krasnoyarsk in Central Siberia. The other scandal concerns Borls Nemtsov, President Boris Yeltsin's young protégé, and his birthplace, Nizhny Novgorod. When Nemtsoy was governor of Norgorod has humiliated Nemtsov

and dealt a blow to his already | had denounced him to the secret |

mayor of the city. Klimentiev is a. young businessman whose past has been described as "criminal". He had been a close friend of Nemtsov's before he was found guilty of fraud and of distributing pornographic films. Klimentiev was sentenced to

became an even closer friend of Nemtsov, who had in the meantime become regional governor. Klimentley obtained various favours from Nemtsoy until the two men fell out in 1995,

Klimentlev was accused of having the region he turned the city into a ment loan intended for the local showcase for the "Russia that works". Today, however, Nizhny has humillated Nemtsov had slandered him and

services in order to mask his own | received a cent for months. His two flagging popularity.

On March 29 Nemtsov's deadly corrupt practices. The young gover lacklustre rivals, however, had been become the seemed confident of victory. second most important member of the government in Moscow, counterattacked by suing Klimen-

tiey for libel.

This sad saga, familiar to everyone in Nizhny Novgorod, falled to deter 33 per cent of its inhabitants from voting for Klimentiev. In the election he managed to nose ahead of his two rivals, one of whom was supported by Nemtsov and the other by Nemtsov's successor as regional governor.

According to the local press Klimentiev conducted a "brilliant" election campaign, claiming to be "a rightwing patriot and an opponent of the regime". He got a helping hand from the maverick nationalist Vladimir Zhirinovsky, Klimentiev

and pensioners who had not News of Klimentiev's win flabber-

gasted the political community in Moscow. On March 31 a spokesman for Yeltsin said that the president was "deeply concerned" at the intrusion of criminals on to the political stage.

Russia's chief public prosecutor immediately announced that the because of irregularities. Yet when Klimentiev appeared on the television programme The Hero Of The Day, he came across as self-confident and sarcastic: "Cancel the election? Who'll take the decision? I'm now the biggest boss here."

While that scandal was unfolding, promised the moon to wage-earners | asked who provided his funds, the

founder of the Honour and Fatherland party said: "People who work and earn money, and who like you, tend to be on the fiddle. I won't name them, otherwise the public prosecutor will go and see them. Isn't that clear enough? I repeat; it's so-called 'grey' money - money honestly earned, but on which you pay no tax, because the tax system iri this country is silly. It's a sin that everyone in Russia is unfortunately guilty of. Everyone."

This outburst, reported by the daily Isvestia, was made by Lebed at his first election meeting, in the stronghold of Krasnoyarak's new boss, Anatoly Bykov, whose activities range from aluminium to the mass media and "charities".

Bykov is a man with an even murkler past than the mayor of Nizhny Novgorod. Yet Lebed had no compunction about taking him on as his chief alde in his bid to take Lebed made an astonishing confession in the depths of Siberia. When who knows? — in Moscow.



U.N. Panel

Calls for Halt

To Execution

John M. Goshko in New York

In A report certain to exacerbate the badly strained relations between the United Nations and

Congress, the U.N. Human Rights

Commission has concluded that the

United States applies the death

penalty unfairly, and called for a

moratorium on further executions.

some U.S. states carry out execu-

tions in an arbitrary and discrimina-

tory manner that does not spare

uveniles, the retarded or the men-

tally ill. It adds that these practices

violate obligations imposed on the

United States by various inter-

national agreements and says the

federal government should halt all

executions while it brings the states

into compliance with international

The report was written by Bacre

Waly Ndiaye of Senegal, an investi-

gator for the Geneva-based rights

commission, who carried out a fact-finding mission in the United States last October that triggered consid-

erable criticism from congressiona

conservatives. Senate Foreign Rela-

tions Committee Chairman Jesse

Helms, R-North Carolina, called Ndiaye's mission "an absurd U.N.

standards and law.

charade.

Specifically, the report says that

Living under the shadow of genocide

HE VILLAGE of Murambi, near Gikongoro in southern Rwanda, seems at first sight quite an ordinary place. It stands on a hill, which is dotted with brick houses, clumps of banana trees and neatly cultivated fields of sorghum.

But its inhabitants are unsmiling, and their faces expressionless. This is a legacy of the massacres that took place here, as in many other Rwandan villages, in the spring of 1994. But in Murambi, the stench of death lingers on.

Emmanuel spends the whole day sprinkling the former school buildngs with powder. "All those dead don't know if it was the will of God or the devil," he says pointing to a classroom. The floor is strewn with twisted children's corpses, some of them no more than skeletons. others still covered with desiccated

Solitary skulls have been laid out on a trestle table. "These are people who had their heads cut off," says Emmanuel, looking straight through me. All he can see are the corpses, exhumed from mass graves, and the bucket of chemical powder that is supposed to preserve uman remains.

In 1994 up to 70,000 Tutais took were only four survivors, according to Emmanuel: "Two men, one woman and one child, my daughter Kayitesi". All the others, including 28 of his relatives, were killed.

The Rwandan government in Kigali has decreed that the site of the massacre should be turned into a Memorial of the Genocide - the third and, one hopes, last 20th century genocide recognised by the international community, after that of the Armenians by the Turks in 1915 and of the Jews by the Nazis.

Emmanuel remembers the mas-sacre of April 1994: "Interahamwe Hutu militiamen fired at us, killing some and wounding others. They went from house to house, tossing grenades through the windows at women and children. They finished off the wounded with machetes and knives. The attack lasted two days. I was shot in the head and lost consciousness. They thought I was dead. The next night I managed to crawl into the bush. My whole family was exterminated, except for Kayitesi. She was saved by an old Hutu woman who found her after

"When I came back, I agreed to work here. This is where the members of my family are, even if they're dead. I don't want people to draw a veil over those events, to deny that they ever happened. When they dug up the corpses, I couldn't sleep any more. I got drunk I was certified insane. Now I know I'll stay here till the end of my days. I'm a first-aid worker — I go to the aid of the memory of the dead,"

Historians put the number of Rwandans killed in 1994 at about 800,000. The vast majority were Tutsis, but Hutus were also murdered. Rwanda now lives in the shadow of that genocide. The survivors, haunted by the carnage and the loss of loved ones, face a continuing nightmare of murders, of jus-tice not being done, of a denial of their suffering. The killers are torn between admitting to participating in the genocide, and strenuously denying any involvement, as do the majority of the Hutu community and a humber of foreign intellectuals. ... nected countries.



Hutus and Tutsis still live side by When Canadian general Roméo side in Rwanda. The hounded wounded, raped and humiliated Tutsin fear that the Hutus may be tempted to finish off the job. True, a Tutsi army has been in power since the military victory of the Tutsi guerrillas from Uganda, which ended the genocide. But Tutsis still account for only about 15 per cent of the population and are aurrounded hostile neighbours.

Along with the killers, the rest of

the Hutu population fears that the Tutsis may seek revenge and carry out a counter-massacre. The 1994 killings were master minded by Colonel Théoneste

agosora, rebellious officers in the Wandan Armed Forces (RAF), and members of other extremist movements who believed in Hutu supremacy. Under the cover of secret societies they had been planning the massacre for years. Their aim was to scuttle the Arusha accords signed in 1993 by the government and the Tutsi rebels -

and to exterminate Rwandan Tutsis. They had a lot going for them: a society that was extremely hier-archical and disciplined, a farming community that was being slowly throttled by mounting poverty and a shortage of land, ethnic rivalry that had been thriving for 30 years, and

Every Hutu family has at least one murderer, just as there's at least one victim in every Tutsi family

an anti-Tutsi propaganda machine that had been in operation since the first attack by Tutsi guerrillas of the Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF) in

The murder of hundreds of thousands of Rwandan Tutsis was not the result of spontaneous killings or innate bestiality, as has been suggested by the champions of a "Hutuland/Tutsiland" solution to the that indicated the holder's ethnic problems of Rwanda and Burundi, group and gave all the privileges to neighbouring and closely intercon-

Dallaire, a former commander of the United Nations Aid Mission in Rwanda (Unamir), gave evidence before the international genocide tribunal in Arusha, Tanzania, in February, he stressed that the Hutus had been able to kill nearly I million people and move between 3 million and 4 million others out of the country within 14 weeks. "There was a methodology," he

ists to find people to do their dirty work for them. Hordes of Hutu farmers massacred their Tutsi neighbours with machetes. Some were forced to do so, others took part enthusiastically. The Hutus organised festivities after the killings, got drunk and ate their booty (a goat or a cow). Never before had so many people who were neither under arms nor politically commit ted shed so much of their neighbours' blood.

"Crimes always went unpunished in Rwanda," saya Alice Karekezi, a human rights activist. There was genocide because there was impunity before that. Some people will naively tell you how many neighbours they killed, neighbours they used to drink with. It was nothing like the Nazi system. Murder had formed an almost integral part of daily life for decades. Some knew that they were going to die, and

others that they were going to kill." Earlier clashes were between regional clans and had no ethnic connotation. Hutus, Tutals and lygmies) used to live gether harmoniously. They spoke the same language. Mixed marriages were so common that although Hutus and Tutsis had and sometimes still have different physical characteristics, it is now difficult to tell the ethnic origins of most Rwandans from their physique

"The colonisers, and especially the missionaries, sowed the first seeds of division," says Denis Polisi, an RPF ideologue. They talked of the distant origins of the Tutsis. They introduced an identity card those they called Tutsis." In 1925 the Belgian colonial ministry issued a report in which is described the Twas as physically similar to the monkeys whose forests they inhabited. They were a race that was "becoming extinct" The Hutus were "small, squat, with olly faces, very flat noses and huge ips, expansive, noisy, cheerful and

simple".
"The Tutsis," it went on, "are a fine race that are negro in no way

'Unless something is done, this country will become one huge psychiatric hospital In the next 10 years'

except for their skin colour. They are very tall. Their features, when young, are very pure — a straight orehead, an aquiline nose and thin lips covering dazzling teeth. Highly intelligent, they often display a delicacy of feeling that is surprising for a primitive people, and possess extraordinary self-control."

Ethnic divisions began to wreak navoc. For the oppressed Hutus, the Tutsis were seen not only as tyrants league with the colonial power, but foreigners from distant lands such as Ethiopia. The killers of Tutsis in 1994 who bothered to take away the corpses often threw them into rivers, such as the Yangorabo. which flow in the direction of East

In 1959 settlers and missionaries switched horses and supported the Hutu "social revolution". The Tutsis were overthrown and many went into exile. Their children joined the ranks of the RPF, which came to power in 1994.

Between the arrival of the first German settlers at the end of the 19th century and the genocide a century later, there was a gradual change in attitudes that had a

bearing on the tragedy.

Decades of religious fervour and submission to authority were partiy responsible for the extreme beha iour that took place in 1994. Hutu farmers did not refuse to take part in the massacres. And the Tutsis. instead of organising resistance in

the hills, took refuge in local admin-istrative buildings and churches, symbols of authority, when mayon were organising genocide locally and Hutu priests rarely opposed it.
The Tutsis were led like lambs to

At the Arusha tribunal a judge asked a witness why she had gone to the local administrative building when she knew that people were being killed there. The witness said: "I did so because I knew people were shot there. I didn't want to be killed by clubs and machetes." An other witness said: "One Tutsi bought a grenade so the laters-hamwes would kill him with it rather than use their machetes or cut off his fingers or ears."

Attitudes have not changed over the years. Villagers rarely question an order. "A chief is a chief in this country," says Polisi. "Respect for authority must remain a fundamental response, but we want to encourage the population to take part in the decision-making process. They're going to be choosing the delegates. We're preparing the ground for democracy.

While waiting for the advent democracy, which has never existed here and which is not something that the RPF is committed to, the Rwandan population continues to maintain stubborn silence.

This natural, almost sacred sense of obedience is mirrored by the trauma of those who took parli the genocide. "Every Hutu family has at least one murderer, just as there's at least one victim in every Tutsi family," says Anastase Murumba, a Rwandan official.

"Here you have a specific kind of raumatic experience," says Lincoln Ndogoni, a psychiatrist with the United States organisation World Vision. "The survivors are naturally traumatised, bitter and angry. They have fits of fear and depression. An the killers are traumatised too. They ask themselves questions, such as:
'Why did I kill?', 'Am I guilty?', 'If I
killed five people, would I have been able to kill 10?'.

"Children killed people. They were given a machete and told to go and kill their neighbours. Women killed people and, something that extremely rare in war, they killed children. At the moment I'm treating a Hutu woman who was married to a Tutsi, and who threw her own child into the river. Every day for the past three years, she has been going to the banks of the river she can't understand what happened to her child.

"I'm also seeing a woman who tried to save her son by disguising him as a girl. The militiamen found her out and, to punish her, forced her to bury her boy alive. She cannot forget his last words Mummy, stop playing, stop three-ing earth in my face, stop playing.

"Unless something is done, th country will become one hige psychiatric hospital in the next 10 or 20 years. The children of the gen-cide will turn into traumatised and maladjusted adults. What they vill have learnt from the genocide that they can't trust a government or an army, or their neighbours. friends or even their parenta." (March 31)

Le Monde

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The Washington Post

Lingering Questions

EMOCRATS lost no time using the dismissal of Paula Jones' sexual harassment case to pressure independent counsel Kenneth Starr to wrap up his criminal levestigation. The argument is somewhat muddled, but it seems to be that the public does not care much about the remaining allegations, that Mr. Starr's rather unpopular investigation has gone on too long already, and that the verdict provides a kind of global vindication for the

Mr. Starr should, like all independent counsels, conduct his probe as quickly as he can, but the suggestion that the dismissal of the Jones case should hasten or moot the rest of his investigation is wrongheaded. Mr. Starr has a series of questions before him that are of varying degrees of public importance but which all require answers before he can fold up shop. These questions include:

Whether, as Mr. Starr's original mandate put it, "any individuals or entities have committed a violation of federal criminal law . . . relating in any way to James B. McDougal's, President William Jefferson Clinton's, or Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton's relationships" with Madison Guaranty Savings and Loan

ing the firing of the White House Travel Office employees.

Whether White House offi cials broke any laws when they

acquired and hoarded hundreds of FBI background files on prominent Republicans. ☐ Whether the president con nitted perjury when he denied

under oath groping Kathleen Willey and having a sexual ☐ Whether the president urged Ms. Lewinsky to submit a false affidavit to a federal court.

Whether any White House official obstructed justice (or conspired to do so) by getting Ms. Lewinsky a job or by giving "talking points" to Linda Tripp to change her testimony con-cerning Ms. Willey's encounter with the president.

It is worth emphasizing that the importance of none of these questions depends on the merits of Ms. Jones' case. If it is important - and we believe that it is — for the public to know whether the president lied under oath and obstructed justice, it should not be less so because the president ultimately pre

Mr. Starr is in the unenviable position of running an investiga-tion of a distasteful subject concerning the president in a politically charged environment while being, himself, under assault. He has done himself no favors with his extracurricular Whether White House officials lied to investigators problem ally inappropriate subpoenas

vailed in the case.

COMMENT

Jim Hoagland

Gerhard Schroeder.



and his almost-casual disregard for the appearance of impartiality. But neither these shortcomings nor the summary judgment in the Jones case should be read to prejudge the questions his

remains unchanged: He needs to address the matters within his jurisdiction thoroughly

"With all the abuses in places like Burma, China, Cuba and Iraq, to be wasting time and money to investi gate the freest country in the world shows what a strange and distant planet the United Nations inhabits,"

Marc Thiessen, a spokesman for Helms said last week. "I hope the U.N. will send this report to every single U.S. citizen so they can see how their money is being spent by an institution so badly in need of top-to-bottom reform. Helms' anger could have serious yield powers to Brussels so they can also shed the risks of unpopular

to get the United States to pay more than \$1 billion in debts to the United spending cuts and/or new taxes.
This supranational financial discipline, which Blair has said Britain Nations. Helms has been at the center of efforts to broker a compromise on the payments, but he has been increasingly hostile to the world body and to Secretary Gen-European conservatives of their heaviest ideological artillery. They have not found a convincing eral Kofi Annan, including him in a reference to "U.N. crybabies who whine about not receiving enough of the American taxpayers' money."

Since last month, when Annan went to Baghdad and negotiated an inspection agreement with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein that staved off a U.S. threat of aerial attacks on Iraq, the secretary general has been criticized severely by saw his mission as appeasement. Clinton administration officials

said last week that they had not seen Ndiaye's report and could not comment on it. In the past, they had sought to play down its significance. When he visited the United

States last year, Ndiaye, a former official of Amnesty International, was rebuffed in efforts to interview Cabinet officials and Supreme Court justices. He talked only with officials of middle to low rank.

In his report, he said the United States was in violation of the 1966 International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which established conditions for the application of the death penalty.

Ex-Agent on | Political Market Divided Over Money Spy Charge

DISGRUNTLED former CIA Aoperative was charged last week with espionage for informing two foreign governments that U.S. ntelligence agencies had cracked their secret communications and for revealing the methods for obtaining the codes, write Roberto Suro and

Douglas F. Groat, 50, of Manassas, Irginia, entered not guilty pleas to five charges, including two that carry a penalty of death. His alleged crimes could have a significant impact on the national security," U.S. Attorney Wilma A. Lewis said after his

During a 16-year career at the CIA, Groat "participated in classiled covert operations" aimed at penetrating the secret codes and ommunications systems employed foreign governments, Lewis said. ie worked in units that broke codes and stole them and focused on both friendly and hostile governments, officials said.

Groat is charged with giving two unidentified governments classified information concerning the "targeting and compromise" of their cryptographic systems" in March and April 1997, less than six months after he had been fired from the CIA. A year earlier, the indictment says, he began an effort to extort more than \$500,000 from the CIA in return for not revealing secrets to

foreign governments.

tant countries is being hollowed out at a time when conservatives are units to regulate national budget deficits, monetary supply and much of fiscal policy. National assemblies setting the agenda on this side of the Atlantic. The European right has failed to make the marketplace the arbiter and centerpiece of pol-

MONEY has become the over-whelming force of American politics, both as means and end. But tics, as has progressively happened Europe has taken a different route. n America. National political battles in England, A sentiment of better-the-devi we-don't-know is the biggest threat to Kohl in his run for a fourth term. France and Germany are still fought along social and ideological lines Nothing he has tried has stopped or even slowed Germany's slide into that are being blurred or obliterated in the United States by the moneta-

economic quagmire.

Part of the European right's rization of politics.

The French right is at the decline is generational Margaret moment deconstructing itself piece-Thatcher's Conservatives and meal in a struggle over racism, immigration and the meaning of the Kohl's Christian Democratic Unionled coalition first came to power French past. Ideas - even confused nearly two decades ago. Ambitious ideas - are the driving impulses of French politics, not promises to balance the budget or to free the stock had to go into opposition to see day market to reach new heights. In tactical: France's neo-Gaullists and Britain, concerns about social justheir pro-business allies on the right tice and management of the welfare have blundered into a series of system trumped the Conservatives separate but related traps set by the record of prosperity last year and helped Tony Blair's New Labor build a domineering parliamentary Socialists and the extremist rightwing forces led by Jean-Marie Le Pen's National Front, and squanmajority that may rule for a decade. And in Germany, Chancellor Helmut Kohl's opening campaign dered the political and moral

authority they once possessed. salvos which warned that his leftist But the crisis of confidence Europe's conservatives are experiopponents will run the economy encing also illuminates the success into the ground if they win Septemtheir nominal counterparts in Amerber's elections have fallen flat. The ica have had in redefining the tools country's 13 percent unemployment rate hangs like an albatross around and terms of politics.

Money is being depoliticized i Kohl's neck, who for once faces a

Europe as the technocrats of the credible Social Democrat rival in European Union use treaty commitments and continental monetary The right in Europe's most impor-

replacement for the now waning subliminal assumption by the electorate that the right exists to grow the economy through superior financial expertise. For better or worse, the arrival of the euro currency will vastly increase the disconnect between politics and money

wants to join in a few years, deprives

But in America the marketplace rules the lives of politicians in each election, and the behavior of the stock market weighs heavily on the scales of their fate in office. Pocketbook issues have always

been paramount in American politics. But other matters - social Justice, the integrity of our leaders, U.S. leadership in the world, to name a few — have perhapa never been driven so far to the margins of the national attention span and political discourse by material concerns as they are today.

In America's current politics of bread and circus, Europeans almost certainly find more to envy than they have at any time since World War II - and less to admire.



John Ward Anderson in Mexico City

A TOP police official from the southern Mexican state of Chiapas was arrested last week for standing by and doing nothing in December last year as a group of armed men massacred 45 unarmed peasants in the hillside hamlet of Acteal, the attorney general's office said in an statement.

Julio Cesar Santiago Diaz, a retired army general serving as chief of staff of the Chiapas state police and head of the state's auxiliary police force, was in the area with other police officers for five hours while the massacre occurred, the statement said. "He heard sporadic gunshots and machine-gun bursts, but he did not intervene or ask for help from a nearby police detach-

Instead, Santiago hid in the Acteal schoolhouse and reported to his superiors that nothing unusual was happening, the statement sald.

Santiago is the highest-ranking official detained so far in connection with the massacre, which brought renewed attention to the conflict and stalled peace negotiations in Chiapas. A cease-tire has held in the impoverished state since indigenous rebels known as "Zapatistas" staged a rebellion on January 1, 1994, demanding greater indigenous rights. More than 140 people were killed in the 10-day revolt.

Survivors of the Acteal massacre - the worst violence since the opening days of the conflict - said that their attackers were members of an armed paramilitary-style group aligned with Mexico's ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party. The survivors said that they themselves are members of a group called Las Abejas, or the Bees, that supports the goals of the Zapatista

uprising but not its armed struggle. It was unclear why Santiago was in the vicinity of Acteal on the day of the attack and the attorneygeneral's office refused to elaborate beyond the one-page statement. The statement did not say why Santiago would report that nothing was happening when he was in the midst of a bloodbath that left 21 women, 15 children and nine men dead, raising the question of whether Santiago could have organized or participated in the attack.

Numerous human rights groups, social workers and Catholic Church officials have said that in the weeks before the massacre, and on the day of the attack, they warned the government that serious trouble was brewing, but that the government did nothing to reduce tensions or op the assault. The incident forced the resignations of Mexico's interior minister and the Chiapas governor and state attorney-general.

It also was unclear when Santiago served with the Mexican army and when he began working with the Chiapas police. Both institutions refused last week to answer questions about his service record.

The federal attorney-general's office also announced that it had arrested an active army soldier. Mariano Perez Ruiz, for allegedly supplying army weapons and training to the attackers, some of whom were from Perez's hometown near Acteal!

Neither Santiago nor Perez has yet been charged.



A BOY holds a Martin Luther King Jr. sign at a march in Memphis, Tennesse, last week to mark the 30th anniversary of the assassination of the civil rights leader.

On Monday President Clinton sked Attorney General Janet Reno to discuss with King's family their request for a new investigation into the shooting.

A congressional committee and several law enforcement agencies have concluded that King was killed on April 4, 1968,

by James Earl Ray, acting alone. Ray confessed to the crime but almost immediately recanted.

Speaking at the "pilgrimage" n Memphis, Rev. Jesse Jackson oined calls by King's widow for the appointment of a federal commission to investigate the murder. Last week Coretta Scott King publicly called on President Clinton to press for the examination of "new evidence". King family members have speculated that the FBI was involved.

Clinton Presses Japan on Economy

Paul Blustein

APAN came under intensified pressure last week to rescue its faltering economy as the country's gold-plated credit rating was called into question, Tokyo stocks fell anew and President Clinton warned that Japanese officials "have to make a break" with their past policies.

Moody's Investors Service, an influential U.S. bond rating firm, delivered a psychological blow to Tokyo by announcing that it had changed its outlook on Japan's government debt from "stable" to "negative." Although the company maintained its triple-A rating on Japanese government-backed bonds, even the hint that it might downgrade Tokyo's government obligations underscored the mounting sense of essimism over Japan's prospects.

The announcement came one day after Sony Corp. chairman Norio Ohga voiced his fear that the Japanese economy was "on the verge of collapsing," and a quarterly survey of Japanese business sentiment found that confidence had plunged.

The cascade of bad news dropped the Nikkei-225 Stock Average to 15,517.78, putting stock prices uncomfortably close to levels at which Japanese banks will find it tough to meet international capital requirements because a significant portion of their capital is invested in the stock market. The yen fell to a 6-year low against the dollar, closing

The deepening gloom in Tokyo raised fears in Washington and other capitals that the world's second-largest economy is headed for a worse recession than the stagnant growth it has suffered for most of the past seven years. That would come at a particularly inopportune time for crisis-stricken Asian countries, which depend on Japan as a market for their exports.

President Clinton weighed in with comments reflecting U.S. con-cerns that time is rapidly running out on the government of Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto, who is struggling to mobilize a consensus by mid-May among ruling-party politicians and the powerful bureaucracy about measures to stimulate

Tokyo with increasing urgency to boost domestic consumption be cause U.S. officials fear that Japan exporting its way out of its troubles will impose a drag on the global economy and hurt U.S. industries that compete with Japanese firms.

The reasons for Japan's predicament are complicated. Hashimoto has staked his political fortunes on i a policy emphasizing tight control over government budget deficits on the grounds that a rapidly aging Japan needs to avoid borrowing and increase saving to prepare for retire-

ment costs in the next century.

That approach has made awkward for the prime minister reverse course even after it became clear that a consumption-tax crease he promoted a year ago was causing the already-fragile econom

U.S. administration officials and many private analysts argue that apan must take drastic action to rid ts banks of hundreds of billions of dollars in bad loans so they can lend more freely. The country has a long tradition of banks keeping weak orrowers alive.

A Japanese economics professor. Takatoshi Ito of Hitotsubashi University, agreed that Moody's move, combined with the slide in Tokyo stock prices and deterioration i ousiness confidence, would help force Hashimoto's hand, "I think the government will take it seriously." said. "It's the market, and the businesses, pressing the government to do something — I think the government will respond to it. rope they do."

In London, where he was attending a meeting of European and Asian leaders, Hashimoto acknowledged "various concerns from abroad. regarding the state of the Japanese economy." But, he said, "Japan will take the necessary measures and, at the same time, provide assistance to the countries of Asia as well."

"We need to be both respectful but firm in urging the Japanese to take a bold course," Clinton said He called on the Japanese government to realize that the strategies that worked in the past are not appropriate to the present. They have to make a break now."

lington, the United States was the middle of absorbing the a influx of immigrants in its y - Irish and Germans, folby Italians and East Euro-Catholics and Jews — some Lion new citizens between Lay, the United States is expe-

orig its second great wave of intion, a movement of people les profound implications for a by that by tradition pays rige to its immigrant roots while * same time it confronts comn and deeply ingrained ethnic

immigrants of today come from Europe but overwhelmfrom the still developing world a and Latin America. They are og a demographic shift so rapid within the lifetimes of today's eduding whites of European nation's population.

TTHE beginning of this cen-

tury, as steamers poured into

American ports, their steer-

filled with European immi-

E. a Jew from England named

z-lZargwill penned a play whose time has long been forgotten.

those central theme has not.

troduction was entitled The

ring Pot and its message still

a tremendous power on the

limagination — the promise

all immigrants can be trans-

dinto Americans, a new alloy

d in a crucible of democracy,

: 1908, when the play opened in

om and civic responsibility.

shift, according to social ans, demographers and others g the trends, will severely e premise of the fabled of pot, the idea, so central to ol identity, that this country ansiorm people of every color arkground into "one Amerlust as possible, they say, is enation will continue to fracnto many separate, disconcommunities with no shared of commonality or purpose. thaps it will evolve into somen between, a pluralistic socinat will hold on to some core about citizenship and capitalbut with little meaningful inter-

ents or grandparents were born. At hamong groups.

the law school of the University of California at Los Angeles, which has about 1,000 students, there are

now held disproportionately by

whites, be shared in the new Amer-

ica? What will happen when Hispan-

ics overtake blacks as the nation's

Fear of strangers, of course, is

nothing new in American history.

The last great immigration wave

produced a bitter backlash, epito-

of 1882 and the return, in the 1920s,

of the Ku Klux Klan, which not only

targeted blacks but Catholics, Jews

Despite this strife, many histori

ans argue that there was a greater

consensus in the past on what i

meant to be an American, a yearn-

Today, they say, there is more

emphasis on preserving one's othnic

identity, of finding ways to highlight

and defend one's cultural roots. The

question is whether, in the midst of

such change, there is also enough glue to hold Americans together.

In high school cafeterias, the

second and third generation children

of immigrants clump together in cliques defined by where their par-

single largest minority?

and immigrants as well.

separate student associations for blacks, Latinos and Asians with their own law review journal.

New Wave of Immigrants Tests a Dream

today's new arrivals are a source of vitality and energy, especially in the big cities to which many are attracted. Diversity, almost everyone agrees, is good; choice is good; exposure to different cultures and mized by the Chinese Exclusion Act deas is good.

But many scholars worry about of common dreams." The concern is ing for a common language and culture, and a desire to assimilate. do about it.

Researchers already speak of a new "demographic balkanization," not only of residential segregation forced or chosen but also a powerful preference to see ourselves through a racial prism, wary of others, and, in many instances, hostile.

snudging the old lines demarcating two historical, often distinct societies, one black and one white. Reshaped by three decades of rapidly rising immigration, the national story is now far more complicated.

It almost goes without saying that

the loss of community and shared sense of reality among Americans, what Todd Gitlin, a professor of culture and communications at New York University, calls "the twilight echoed by many on both the left and right, and of all ethnicities, but no one seems to know exactly what to

The demographic shifts are

Cubans in Miami: Hispanics will likely outnumber blacks early in the next century Whites account for 74 percent of

the population, blacks 12 percent, Hispanics 10 percent and Asians 3 percent. Yet according to data and predictions generated by the U.S. Census Bureau and social scientists poring over the numbers, Hispanics will likely surpass blacks early in the next century. And by the year 2050, demographers predict. His panics will account for 25 percent of the population, blacks 14 percent. Asians 8 percent, with whites hovering somewhere around 53 percent.

ONGRESS triggered this transformation in 1965, when it made family reunification the primary criteria for admittance. That policy, a response to charges that the law favored white Europeans, allowed immigrants already in the country to bring over their relatives, who in turn could bring over more relatives. As a result, America has been absorbing as nany as 1 million newcomers a year, to the point that now almost one i every 10 residents is foreign born.

The intake, relative to the overall population, was slightly higher at the beginning of this century, but the current immigration wave is in many ways very different, and its context inexorably altered, from the last great wave.

This time around, tensions are sharpened by the changing profile of those who are entering America's borders. Not only are their racial and ethnic backgrounds more varied than in decades past, their place in a modern postindustrial economy has also been recast.

The newly arrived today can be roughly divided into two camps: those with college degrees and highly specialized skills, and those with almost no education or job training. Some 12 percent of immigrants have graduate degrees, compared to 8 percent of native Americans. But more than one-third of the immigrants have no high school diploma, double the rate for those born in the United States. About 6 percent of new arrivals receive some form of welfare, double the rate for U.S.-born citizens.

With large numbers of immigrants arriving from Latin America, and segregating in barrios, there is also evidence of lingering language problems. Consider that in Miami. three-quarters of residents speak a language other than English at home and 67 percent of those say they are not fluent in English. In New York City, four of every 10 residents speak a language other than English at home, and of these, half said they do not speak English well.

It is clear that not all of America is experiencing the impact of immigration equally. But as the immigrants arrive, many American-born citizens leave in search of new homes. in more homogeneous loc York and Los Angeles each lost more than 1 million native-born residents between 1990 and 1995, even as their populations increased by roughly the same numbers with immigrants. To oversimplify, said University of Michigan demographer William Frey, "For every Mexican who comes to Los Angeles a white native-born leaves."

Most of the people leaving the big cities are white and they tend to b working class. This is an entirely new kind of "white flight," whereby whites are not just fleeing the city centers for the suburbs but also are leaving the region, and often the

Frey sees in this pattern "the emergence of separate Americas, one white and middle-aged, less urban and another intensely urban, young, multicultural and multiethnic. One America will care deeply about English as the official language and about preserving Social Security. The other will care about things like retaining affirmative action and bilingual education."

Pipe Bombs Become Toys for Teens

AKING a pipe bomb is a VI cinch, a group of bombsavvy junior high school boys said one afternoon recently, after stepping off the school bus into their newish subdivision in northern Montgomery County, Maryland.

"It's easy. A kid in fifth grade could do it," a 14-year-old wearing an oversized trench coat said matter-of-factly. Much more interesting to this group in Germantown were discussions of which propellants are best to use, which Web sites have the best recipes and whether tin or aluminum soda cans make

better bomb casings. "I go over to this auto shop, where they sell parts and everything, and look for anything with ether in it . . . That makes a nice blast," said a 13-year-old in

The casual discussion illustrates a frightening trend: Young people in many parts of the sophisticated explosive devices in increasing numbers since the early 1990s, and bringing them into their schools in many cases, say bomb experts, education associations and officials at the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms. And evidence shows they're not just being made as childish pranks, but as weapons that are intended to

destroy and even kill. "These cases are starting to cross the line from 'boys will be boys' to real attempts to cause njury," said David Kysilko, a kesman for the National Association of State Boards of Education, which is concerned

about the apparent increase in teenage bomb-making activity.

The recent discovery of a powerful pipe bomb in Montgomery County's Rocky Hill Middle chool is a case in point. Or February 27 the school was evacuated after a bomb was found in a student's locker. Prosecutors say 14-year-old Domingo Luyo Jr. intended to use the device, which another student built, to kill his grandfather.

Such incidents began to crop up with alarming frequency in the early 1990s, according to the ATF, prompting the bureau's itatisticians to begin tracking them. They found that youths were involved in a disproportionate share — 33 percent — of the fast-rising total number of U.S. bombing cases, which doubled between 1985 and 1995. Juvenile bombings increased

from 774 in 1992, the first year the ATF began tracking such cases, to 1,126 in 1994. That number declined to 931 in 1995, the most recent year for which figures are available, but officials say they think the numbers will continue to rise.

Experts say the reasons for the trend remain murky, but they cite the availability of detailed bomb-malding instructions on the Internet, parents inattentiveness, and high-pm cases such as the Olympic Park bombing in Atlanta, abortion clinic attacks and the activities of the so-called Unabomber as factors that may have captured youths' interest. Bombs apparently are become

ing so common that students give them as gifts. Last October a 13-year-old from Corvallis, Oregon, gave a classmate a flower and a gift-wrapped pipe bomb for her birthday and instructions on how to use it.

Race Helps Soccer Score Over Old Sports

Actuard Schneider in Toronto

provincial champs in 1981 1 again in 1986. Senior team lps in 1992. Winners of the Walton Challenge Cup in 1938. leagues for kids, seniors and whome moms, a comfortable de and regular "bonspiel" tourthis with other curling groups, rlub also served as a social cenor the downtown neighborhood Arriale, a working example of (anada's loosely constructed or sustains itself.

he'se days, however, the mem-of the Royals" are spending as time discussing survival and d provincial Membership is down Royals' riuk.

roughly 50 percent, and the club's finances are so tenuous the owners the old-style Canadian," said Royals

board-style across a sheet of ice toward a bull's-eye, is as popular as ever in Canada, a de facto national pastime for adults.

Rather, it's a reflection of how Canada's increasingly interracial reality is reshaping the country's major cities. It may have been natural, first for the English and Scots, and later the Latvians and Ukrainians, to embrace a sport that blended sliding across the ice on your knees with lots of time to socialize, It has proved much tougher for the Royals to find an audience among the Asian residents who and change as talking about have created one of foromos. The liker club might produce its of the produce its

The ROYAL Canadian Curling are debating whether to close.

The sport of curling, in which through almost any small Canadian town, he said, and There's almost town, he said, and There's almost always a liquor store, a Royal Cana-

dian] Legion and a curling club,

usually within close proximity

Those towns are almost all white, according to newly released information from a Statistics Canada census that for the first time asked Canadians about their race. With the advent of employment equity laws, multicultural programs and other policies whose monitoring requires race-specific data, Canadian census officials decided they should unanibiguously identify what are referred

to here as "visible minorities." The data confirmed that Canada's image as an increasingly diverse and multicultural society ends at the boundaries of Toronto, Vancouver

and Montreal, major cities where nearly 75 percent of the country's nonwhite population lives. Half of Canada's 10 provinces have minority populations of less then 4 percent, and three of only 1 percent.

Overall, the portion of Canada's that of the United States: about 11 percent, or roughly 3.2 million people. Nearly half are Chinese or South Asian: about 570,000 are black.

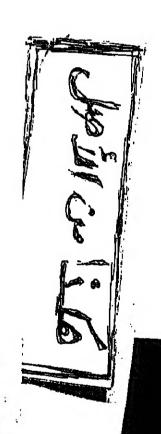
"The notion of Canada as a tolerant, multiracial, multilingual society is part and parcel of the way we have defined ourselves," said Robert Glossop, executive director of programs for the Vanier Institute on the Family. "However, up until recently. Canada has never been out to the test to really deliver . . . This diverse cultural complexion is not equally spread across the country."

That's a fact that the Royals, now in the middle of a city that is nearly one-third nonwhite, must cope with if they are to survive: Craddock said. | society.

Across town, in a cavernous airplane hangar that has been converted into an indoor soccer complex, Francois Glasman is coping with the opposite problem: how to accommodate nearly 300 teams of men, women and children from around the world who want to play on the five artificial-turf fields he developed at the old Downsview military base.

More Canadians are registered in soccer leagues now than in hockey leagues, and on any given night you can hear them at Glasman's facility. encouraging each other in Arabic. Spanish and, yes, English.

"Way back; Canadians used to call soccer an ethnic game," Glasman said. "No more . . . This has very much a world soccer flavor. When people are here, they could be in Brazil or Italy or France or England. The pot has really melted. The fact that you hear many languages — that is the fabric of our



ROM the very beginning of this stunning novel, we know that the narrator, Dr. Benedict Lambert, is a dwarf. But it's hard sometimes to reconcile Lambert's voice - sardonic, sarcastic. erudite, incisive, unbearably clever, and horny as hell - with the brutal facts of his physique. "He possesses a massive forehead and blunt, puglike features," Lambert writes in the dispassionate third person. "His nose is stove in at the bridge, his mouth and jaw protrude. His limbs are squat and bowed, his fingers are mere squabs. He is one meter. twenty-seven centimeters tail." Whenever Lambert walks through the streets, people stare. "You get used to it," he says, unconvincingly.

But inside this misshapen form is a brilliant mind, and Lambert is a genetic researcher of international renown. He is also the great-greatgreat nephew of Gregor Mendel, the Moravian monk who discovered the laws of genetic inheritance in 1865. Driven not so much by this familial link as by his own genetic disaster, Lambert spends his career searching for the gene for achondroplasia, the form of dwarfism from which he suffers. The gene is autosomal dominant, meaning that anyone who carries it has a 50-50

makes it an unpopular target for genetic research, since all the real research funding goes into explaining recessive traits like cystic fibrosis. "Recessives play on people's anxieties." Lambert's boss explains. They can spend a whole lifetime worrying whether they're carriers, and then we come along and offer them a test."

Woven through the novel is the ale of Gregor Mendel, who made his discovery in the course of eight years' worth of work with sweet peas - only to have his work completely ignored during his lifetime. Simon Mawer, an Oxford-trained zoologist, biology teacher and nov-elist, knows Mendel's sad little story impeccably, and he tells it quite beautifully. The passages about Mendel's life, combined with clear and cogent information about contemporary genetics (including footnotes and website URLs), add a richness to the novel, which is at its heart about the vicissitudes of chance as seen through one randomly cruel toss of the genetic dice.

After a tortured lifetime of study, research and unrelenting lonell-ness, Lambert finally finds the gene he's been searching for. He also finds Jean (the name's a pun), a librarian at the institute where he works. The two have an intense, bizarre love affair when Jean briefly leaves her boorish husband — an chance of having a dwarf child. This me that is the normal size."

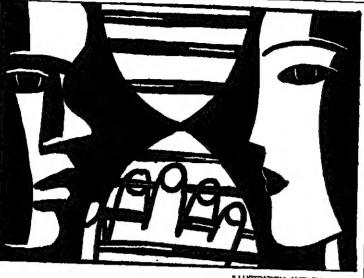


ILLUSTRATION: ANTHONY RUSSO

When the affair ends, Jean decides to try to fix her childless marriage by having a baby - Lambert's baby, as it turns out, whom she can pass off as the child of her infertile husband. But her plan depends on genetic certainty, something that the reader already knows is impossible. Jean wants Lambert to screen the fertilized eggs that the two of them produce through in vitro fertilization, and then selectively implant only the one that is free of the gene for achondroplasia.

Reluctantly and out of love, Lambert agrees. But as he peers into the microscope surveying the perfect Mendelian proportions of his progaffair that is sexually quite fulfilling.

Lambert repeatedly assures us, infour normal, one of Uncle Gregor's eny - four out of eight embryos volving as it does "the one part of ratios" — he faces an ethical crisis. "God allows pure luck to decide

whether a mutant child or a normal child shall be born," he muses. "But Benedict Lambert has the possibility of beating God's proxy and overturning the tables of chance." How tempting it would be to "close my eyes and pick one out at random," he says, in effect playing on Jean and on their child "the kind of practical joke . . . that life played on me." Although the book falls apart in

the last 50 pages, it is overall a remarkable performance. Lambert's voice is distinctive, unique and often downright chilling; it grabs you by the throat and dares you to admit to your own revulsion. combined with guilty gratitude, when you see him in all his grotesquerie. And it reminds us, again and again, of how much about us is due to chance, and how little about our genes we truly understand.

20 years earlier."

Remaking the World:

Adventures in Enginee

Henry Petroski (Knopi, #24

through nine editions, but at

sprawled on the ground, some being beaten, some, having already been beaten, just lying there; he had a sense that this must be what a battlefield was like. Lewis could not frenzied, accompanied by an odd sound, a communal roar of anger." While Branch's book unfolds as a

stunningly detailed chronology, Hal-berstam's builds upon feelings — a more nebulous realm for a journalist, even for such a justly celebrated journalist as this one, and a slightly more confusing approach for a reader. Also odd, for a book so devoted to the protagonists' emodevoted to the protagonists' emotions and impressions, is the fact that practically the only voice in the book is Halberstam's. In his research, the author conducted hundreds of in-depth interviews with key players. Yet out of this rich hoard of material, he very rarely finds the voices and quotations of the protagonists' emotions and impressions, is the fact deviser of Robert's Rules ded to the voices for the United when to West Point and make the past three years, has neers, where as a young may analysts to eat humble found himself perplexed by the first the most optimistic gurus inability to run a proper mediate the power of the United when the past three years, has neers, where as a young may analysts to eat humble found himself perplexed by the first that practically the only voice in the South Carolina-bon has size of the United when the past three years, has neers, where as a young may analysts to eat humble found himself perplexed by the past three years, has neers, where as a young may analysts to eat humble found himself perplexed by the past three years, has neers, where as a young may analysts to eat humble found himself perplexed by the past three years, has neers, where as a young may analysts to eat humble found himself perplexed by the past three years, has neers and control three years, has neers and control three years, has neers and proper mean transported to the control three years, has neers and proper mean transported to the united to the year three years, has neers and proper mean transported to the past three years, has neers and proper mean transported to the united to the past three years, has neers and proper mean transported to the past three years, has neers and proper mean transported to the past three years, has neers and proper mean transported to the past three years, has neers and proper mean transported to the past three years, has neers and proper mean transported to the past three years, has neers and proper mean transported to the past three years, has need to the past thre finds the voices and quotations of others to be worth including. He found that his shortcoming and billion that his shortcoming and tells everyone's life story for them. The Children is like a magnificent work of oral history, with the peculiar drawback that every idiosyn-crasy of voice, accent and intonation has been blended into the narrator's the U.S. House of Representation and the U.S. Senate to write a book that he first published his concern then the book has concern the book that he first published his concern the book has concern the book long, uninflected, almost uninter-

Nevertheless, within this book by each of "the children" who abandoned their lecture halls, dormitories, and campus fraternities and signed up for suicide missions into the Deep South. The reader has been well-informed of the poor or working-class parents back home on the farm, who desperately scrab-Police Chief Bull Connor later on the farm, who desperately scrabsize on the farm, who desperately scrabbled together the means to finance on the farm, who desperately scrabsize on the farm, who desperately scrabsize on the farm, who desperately scrabbled together the means to finance on the farm, who desperately scrabsize on the farm of the farm of the size of the farm of

Hardcovers in Bin Norway manages to keep the faith Nonfiction Monk, by Leurent de Wild Larry Eillott finds an antidote to those who argue that translated by Jonathan Dickinson (Marlows, \$22, 00alisation dealt a mortal blow to social democracy

A JAZZ pianist who has not the less than the social democracy is simple. Over the past de Wilde brings a music. 20 years social democrats spective to this appreciation at thought like Norwegians but legend Thelonius Monk le stilke New Zealanders. There sets the scene in New York, a same this would scarcely have Monk's family moved when a small child. There, in the same of the post-war social condon, Monk launched himself out at and Norway could almost be scene and behop was born; and Norway could almost be scene and behop was born; and Norway could almost be spie. Charlie Parker and other the late Forties, when the still hand; and so that Keynesian demand pure stride tradition (a has sugment is not a museum piece alternating every other bear the whole basis on which ecochord), for maximum swing the advantage of this tech; when the advantage of this tech; when the strength is not an an useum piece alternating every other bear the whole basis on which ecochord), for maximum swing the advantage of this tech; when the strength is not a museum piece alternating every other bear the whole basis on which ecochord), for maximum swing the advantage of this tech; when the strength is not a museum piece alternating every other bear the whole basis on which ecochord). For maximum swing the advantage of this tech; when the strength is not a museum piece alternating every other bear the whole basis on which ecochord the problem is the rune of the contrary, the government in Oslo has the rather the rune of the contrary, the government in Oslo has the rather the strength of the strength

you have an open-enough the little unemployment but by an that the right hand is for those policy known as the Stabil-whatever it wants. Monk p. https://doi.org/10.1001/j.j.

whatever it wants. Monk pt. Alternative.
into this opening ... creating the Tealand, by contrast, has rhythms, and figures with a pone a laboratory for every hand as free as the breeze. It should be save to be road-tested modern. Take away the left for Thater's Britain or Realand there would be the Market America. The International 20 years parties. Remove the stray Fund, the Organisation and it would be back to the transfer. To operation and 20 years parties." dopment and just about every a part of the new world order In Search of Islamic Family the way Wellington has slashed One Woman's Global Journalist, given the central bank by Elizabeth Warnock Familiation a binding contract to hit (Doubleday, \$24.95)

recognition from unions. Is THERE such a thing as in the property of th

toe, tend to disbelieve that the reversion. For example, far from cept of women's equality entering that the recent blackout in the Islamic world. The rein ackland was the result of sackcourse, is far more completely engineers to save money, the that, as Fernes found one act should be focusing on how the course of two years' world de rees of the privatised energy to Morocco, Egypt, Turkey, kin the private of shareholder Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Uzbekishas the by downsizing its cost base. the United States. In each pare 150 much, so obvious. The 1980s interviewed women of the the decade of rightwing hege-backgrounds and experience to the decade of rightwing hege-backgrounds and experience to the the West. Of highly politicized activists to the first government, and even there is government, and even there with centralised pay bargaining with Mitterrand had to suffer pedicohabitation with the right.

nationally competitive. The main labour organisation is seen not as because, far from signing up to the neo-liberal plan of inflation targetthe enemy but as an important social partner that can ensure wage moderation across the whole

DEREGULATED INFORM

MARKET

The baleful results of this heresy are there for all to see - growth over the past five years at double the European average, full employment and price stability. Of the three traditional tests of social democracy — jobs for all, reducing inequality and increasing democratic control over the economy -Norway passes them all.

Of course there are those who argue that social democracy is a luxury that Norway can afford because It has all that lovely North Sea oil. Up to a point that is true. But the non-oil economy in Norway is also booming. rising, on average, by 3.5 per cent a year since 1994. The lion's share of

the oil money is being put into special fund and invested abroad rather than being squandered - as was Britain's - on tax cuts. There is a risk that it will all end in

tears. Some policy makers worry that Norway is heading for a classic boom-bust cycle. There is certainly a need to tighten fiscal policy aggressively to compensate for the stimulative impact of monetary policy.

Nevertheless Norway provides a useful antidote to those who argue that globalisation has sounded the death knell for social democracy. The problem for social democrats is that if they spurn the lessons of the Norwegian model they will be drawn inexorably towards a version of what is being offered in the southern hemisphere.

It's no good the left just thinking like Norwegians. It must act like Norwegians too.

In Brief

PRICE

STABILIT

EMPLOYMEN

DECENT

WELFARE

THE pound reached a 10-year high, acoring 108.9 against a basket of currencies and climbing above 3.10 German marks. Treasury officials admitted that a consequent loss of export business could send the industrial sector into recession later this year.

FINANCE 19

BRITAIN could easily cancel the debts of the world's 20 poorest countries, according to new research by the Jubilee 2000 coalition. The total debt. \$2.3 billion, represents less than the Government's subsidy to the Channel Tunnel rail link.

C ANADA LIFE became the latest mutual life insurer to announce plans to convert to a public company. The move promises windfalls of about 3,600 for qualifying policy-

THE British public is becoming increasingly bostile to the euro, according to a Mori survey that showed a net proportion of voters opposed to a single European currency at 25 per cent in March, up from 19 per cent in January.

HE restructuring of suffered a blow when last-minute French demands forced a delay in awarding an order for "battlefield taxis" worth \$5 billion.

OST leading UK employers believe the Government's plan to create a legal right to trade union recognition will not damage industrial relations, according to a survey by NOP.

ADBROKE'S \$600 million purchase of Coral betting shops was in doubt after the Government referred the deal to the Monopolies and Mergers

CUNARD, owner of the Queen Elizabeth II and other leading cruise ships, was sold for \$500 million to the world's largest company in the sector, the Miami-based Carnival Corporation.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

d- I		10.5	•
ie l	Australia :	2,5136-2,5192	2.5288-2.631
of	Austria	21,51-21.53	21.75-21,77
le	Belgium	83,08-63.20	63.79-63,89
n	Canada ·	2.3537-2.3559	2.3844-2.386
717	Denmark	11.66-11.67	11.79 11.80
<u>.</u>	France	10.26-10.26	10.38-10.37
rl-	Germany	3.0586-3.0814	3.0927-3.098
et	Hong Kong	.12.88-12.87	12,09-12,00
sh	Ireland	1.2132-1.2167	1.2301-1.23
W	Raiv	3,018-3,022	3,048-3,050
en .	Japan	223.59-223.84	221.51-221.
115	Netherlands	3.4447-3.4478	3,4661-3,46
ng	New Zealand	8.0112-3.0169	3.0233-3.02
18,	Norway	12.70-12.72	12.70-12.7
at	Portugal	313.21-313.60	316.73-317
ew	Spain	259.47-259.59	282.45-282.
ite		13.30-13.32	13.28-13.3
	8weden		
ble	Switzerland	2,5373-2.5405	2,5443-2.54
re-	UBA	1.6801-1.6811	1,6770-1.87

F1881100 Share Index up 188.8 at 6 105.8. FTEE 250

Freedom Rides Into Harm's Way

Mellesa Fay Greene

THE CHILDREN By David Halberstam Random House. 783 pp. \$29.95

TIS a great season for readers of serious nonfliction. Two long-awaited, bigger-than-life, multitudi-nous works of civil rights history, starring famous Americans and casts of hundreds, are here: Taylor Branch's incomparable Pillar Of Fire and now David Halberstam's uneven but stirring The Children. Halberstam's 783-page tome tells a more narrowly focused story than Branch's 746-page one, for while Branch has within his sights the entire era, with an encyclopedic grasp of politics, locales and personalities, Halberstam is interested chiefly in the hearts and minds of the move-

ment's student leaders. On May 20, 1961, 20 black and white college students aboard a Greyhound bus, self-styled "Freedom Riders," carried their campaign to desegregate interstate bus the Student Nonviolent Coordinatterminals into an ominously quiet | ing Committee, who led sit-ins, Saturday morning," Halberstam writes, "virtually the middle of the day, a time when any Southern city was crowded. Yet not a soul was moving. No one was walking on the streets, nor were any cars about. The bus made a big, lazy swing into the station. There was no one there. It was like pulling into a ghost bus station in a ghost town. As they prepared to get off the bus. Bernard Lafayette knew something was

A few of the passengers already had been attacked by a mob at the

Alabama, that same day, another bus was forced off the road and set aflame, with the young Freedom Riders barricaded inside: "Well, boys, here they are. I brought you some niggers and nigger-lovers," the bus driver had called out to the mob; as the students began choking inside the bus, they heard rioters yelling, "Let's roast the niggers!" By the time the replacement bus draws into cerie Montgomery, midway through The Children, the students, not fooled by the city's silence, once again have prepared themselves for

the possibility that they are about to die at the hands of a mob. Halberstam delivers these oft-told chronicles and famously photographed scenes with freshness and nmediacy, through the eyes of the dozen young people who formed the nucleus of leadership in the nascent civil rights movement the religious, passionately driven, unpredictable, inventive founders of hands, almost afraid mery, Alabama. "It was late | Freedom Rides, and voter registration drives, putting their bodies at risk, their college educations on hold, and their parents in a panic. But the group's collected tales have not been assembled quite like this before. Halberstam offers biographles of most of the major protagonists, so that the reader is aware of the inner ground covered by each of "the children" who aban-

police was due to their celebrating Mother's Day. Outside Anniston, these sons' and daughters' college educations, and who now must cope with the reality that these brilliant children, these star students, these scholarship winners, have bent their talents to nothing less than overturning the old order, the Southern Way of Life.

Not only must the generation of black parents symbolically stand aside as their young people take up the struggle, but also the tyranny of the older generation of whites begins to slip. The students magically attract the brand-new medium of nightly television news; they comprehend the notion of a "sound bite" decades before the word is coined; and, with news crews following them everywhere and relaying images of the brutal attacks on them. they win the attention and sympathy

One reads the book to turn the page

of the majority of TV-viewing Americans and, finally, of the Kennedy White House.

To accomplish all this, however, they must become fodder - not for cannons but for cameras — by luring the hidden beast of racism out | rupted monologue. of hiding, and so they disembark. The silence which greeted them in

coming, it seemed, out of nowhere. moving at them quickly and angrily. They went for the journalists first, particularly the photographers. Lewis was startled by the violence of it. These were men and women who had turned into animals.

"All around Lewis, people were believe the rage. It was obscene,

Bulls charge into bear year also noted the lack of bargains -

O NE of the adventuresome pulls neers celebrated by Henri Rark Tran the 9,000 level so soon; now 1000 before the year is out. cusable: There was no agreed readily accessible method in

ast week cheers rang around on general public, so he bone from the procedures of Parisi duge as the Dow's Industrial Averion among the pundits. The higher the Dow climbs, the base they fret. As the respected US

trestors when he declared that the market was not overvalued, but he

hence his foray into silver.

Danger signals are flashing in the

market. Last week the Sony chairman, Norio Ohga, warned that the Japanese economy was on the verge of collapse, and threatening to trigger a global recession. In the short term the Asian

paid work. On the contrary, the gov-ernment in Oslo has the rather

old-fashioned belief that generous

maternity leave, decent pensions

and unemployment pay at rather

more than subsistence level are

Norwegian way that are inimical to

the basic tenets of the new global

model. There has been a carbon tax

since 1991, forcing companies to be

more energy efficient. There is a

vigorous regional policy. But it is

Norway's apostasy when it comes to

economic policy that really sticks in

the throat of the laistez-faire gurus

ing, deregulated pay bargaining,

weak unions and a spurning of Key-

nesian demand management, the

Norwegian government acts as if Milton Friedman had never existed.

Policy, says the ministry of

finance, "is geared towards main-

taining stable economic growth

consistent with low price and wage

inflation, while gradually achieving

reductions in unemployment". Mon-etary policy is confined to keeping

the exchange rate stable, while the

central role of regulating growth is given to fiscal policy. The Stability Alternative completes the picture. This is corporatism in all its glory,

There are other features of the

badges of a civilised country.

financial crisis has served as a safety valve for a US economy in danger of overheating. Because of bor of the New York Stock Exnomy is expected to grow by only tossed the 9,000 mark for the 2 per cent this year, 1 per cent less than previous forecasts. Asia's slow-objection down has obviated the need for the Federal Reserve to raise interest rates in order to cool economic activity; a clear plus for the markets.

In the longer term, however, Asia's problems bode ill for investors. At some point, US companies' bottom lines will be hurt as cash-strapped Asian consumers stop buying US products.

zmer at NationsBank point out that even a whopping 20 per cent decline in exports to Asia would reduce US gross domestic product by only 0.4 bug problems and deflationary to 0.5 per cent. But that is still a forces from Asia. sizeable chunk of the original estimates of 3 per cent growth.

While the extent of the Asian fallout is unclear, there is widespread agreement that first-quarter profits for US firms will be disappoint

At the beginning of the year the consensus forecast on profits for Standard & Poor's 500 companies was an increase of about 8 per cent in 1998. But that looks too optimislic because first-quarter estimates have been pared back dramatically. Analysts in January were looking for 10 per cent firstquarter profit growth but they have

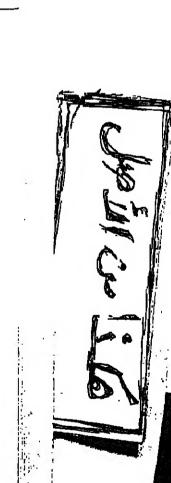
nomy. Mickey Levy and Peter Kret- | Deutsche Morgan Grenfell, lieves that while the Dow may hit 10,000 this year, 1999 is likely to be a bear year because of millennium

> The baby-boomers have been a driving force behind the bull market, investing through mutual funds. with an eye on retirement and send ing their children to university. The negative news may be attributable the market's falls.

However, they have yet to expen ence a truly precipitous marke drop, one on the scale of the bearlal early 1970s market, when the Dov plunged by 40 per cent betwee January 1973 and December 1974.

Investora have ridden on a risin now slashed that to 1 per cent. In its | escalator during the past 10 year customary fashion the market with only minor blips. When the brushed saide the bad news on first ride comes to a jarring halt, ne quarter profits, but if these do prove disappointing, things could get ugly.

Investors may panic and exacerba the sell-off. But for irrepressible to the sell-off. Even analysts who were ahead of | bulls like Mr Yardeni, a crash repr the buil market think the current | sents "one hell of a buying opportu-Some economists have minimised Asia's impact on the eco Ed Yardeni, chief economist of 15,000 by 2005.



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Cert. YEFL (Managemer Prospectus from:

IUCN - The World Conservation Union is providing technical support to the Government of Kenya in implementing the Mount Eigen integrated Conservation and Development Project. The Project is to be implemented in partnership with the Kenya Wildlife Service and the Forest Department in the Ministry of Natural Resources. It alms at contributing to the long-term conservation of the Mt. Eigon ecosystem by: providing support for improved management and sustainable use of its resources: building effective partnerships for conservation between multiple stakeholders; capacity building for local institutions and personnel; and promoting equitable charing of benefits. IUCN also provides technical advice to a similar ongoing project implemented by the Uganda Wildlife Authority on the Ugandan side of Mt. Elgon.

The project seeks to recruit the following officers:

Eastern Africa

Regional Office

Chief Technical Advisor (CTA)

The CTA will be the principal focal point and co-ordinator for the delivery of IUCN's technical assistance in implementing the project. She/he will work closely with the Project Manager, and will be responsible for co-ordinating technical support and advice to the project staff in the implementation of the project, in accordance with the project document. In particular s/he will be responsible for co-ordinating the technical input for the formulation of a long-term integrated management plan for the Mt. Elgon ecosystem. S/he will liaise with project pertners and other relevant bodies in the planning and overseeing of project activities at ecosystem district, and village levels in biodiversity conservation and

The candidate should have at least a second degree in a relevant field and a minimum of lifteen years professional experience in natural resource management some of which should be in Africa. Experience should, in particular, cover forest and protected area management, integration of ecosystem concerns into regional and district planning processes.

Experience in leading field based teams and working with communities is required. Knowledge of the English language is essential. Knowledge of Kiswehill would be an added advantage.

Rural Development Advisor (RDA)

The RDA will provide technical guidance regarding community participation in the conservation of the Mount Elgon ecosystem and other related community development activities. In particular, s/he will be responsible for providing advice and support to the District Project co-ordinators, and facilitate liaison between the project. District authorities and neighbouring communities, in the development and promotion of sustainable practices for management and utilisation of natural resources. The RDA will co-ordinate the implementation of socio-economic and other related studies, and advise on ways of noreasing the participation of women in project activities. She will also coordinate the development of a comprehensive rural participation framework

The candidate should have at least a second degree in a relevant discipline and professional experience of at least ten years, some of which should be in Africa. The experience should cover such areas as, community participatory processes in resource management, rural socio-economic surveys in developing countries, as well as gender related issues. Knowledge of the English language is essential. Knowledge of Klawahili would be an added advantage.

Both posts will be based in Kitala in western Kenya, but staff will be expected to travel regularly for field work within the two Districts; Trans-Nzola and Mt. Elgon. The posts are two-and-half-year positions with a possibility of extension. Project start-up is April 1998.

Prospective candidates should send letters of application, detailed curriculum vitae and names and contacts of three professional referees to: The Regional Representative, IUCN Eastern Africa Regional Office, P.O.Box 68200, Nairobi, Kenya or fax 254 2 890815 by May 2nd 1998. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.



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Jik clings precariously to the Antarctic ice, but it may be abundant in vast lakes below PHOTO. CHERRY ALEXALDER

A world untouched for 30 million years

CCENTISTS are poised to exoplore a mysterious lost world warly four kilometres below Antarcica A large lake, insulated by millives of years of ice, could hold living creatures that inhabited the plane more than 30 million years ago.

British, French, German, Russian and United States scientists met in t Petersburg last month to agree on that will, in effect, be a landing on mother planet: the painstaking remeinto a body of water the size of Life Ontario, more than 3,600m uder the icecap at the Russian base of Vosiok. The Russians have already retrated to within 150 metres of the surface of the water. But then tedriling had to stop.

The researchers face a problem. they have to find a way to explore e mysterious world of Lake Vos without contaminating it with He from the surface.

They know that there will be sons of life down there: Russian and S microbiologists have been exam-

down 400,000 years ago.

"We've found some really bizarre things - things that we have never seen before," said Richard Hoover of Nasa. He and his Russian colleague have given the microscopic creatures temporary nicknames, such as Klingon, Mickey Mouse, Porpolse and Sphere. The discovery at such depths raises the hope that even stranger things lie waiting to

be discovered under Vostok. Cynan Ellis-Evans of the British Antarctic Survey, one of the experts at the St Petersburg meeting, said that the researchers were likely to use a hot-water lance to cut deeper into the ice. Then they plan to lower a thermal probe, which will sterilise itself as it descends. The ice will freeze again and close behind it.

"It's a one way trip, isolating itself from microbes in the upper ice," Dr Ellis-Evans said. "We are expecting to find new things . . . it is like going to another planet."

Nobody knows why lakes should

ining microbes in samples of ice laid | on the planet. Antarctica was once a mild, forested landscape: even now, geologists are still discovering fossil ferns and carnivorous dinosaurs in he polar mountains

The glaciers began to close over the continent 40 million years ago. Lake Vostok could be in a rift valley a deep fissure in the continent's crust — and if it is, the huge depth of sediment below the water could be a "time capsule" of the planet's ustory.

Some geologists argue that there could be some form of volcanic heat deep in the rocks providing the energy for unusual forms of life. But there are other hypotheses: for instance, ice may have melted to form the lake as it sheared over the bedrock.

More than 99 per cent of Antarctica is covered in thick ice - but there could be hundreds of lakes below the icesheet.

"Every single one of them could be, potentially, of significance," said Dr Ellis-Evans. "This is a whole new exist under the largest body of ice | world opening up for us."

sis is on emptiness. Much of what is called jungle in India is steppe or nearly desert. — Jim McManus, Wheaton Aston, Staffordshire

bride's domain, the choice of a chapel wedding can be seen to shift' power just for a day, with the hana-

Letter from Japan Mark Harris

Cinderella complex

ASAKO wants a white wedding. "Wearing a white wedding dress is romantic and pretty," she says. "You feel like a princess for a day with all your riends watching you,'

Masako has a classic case of what s known as Shinderera con (Cinderella complex) — many young Japanese women dream of having a fairytale wedding at a chapel; preferably officiated by a Western priest.

And so I become priest for the day. When Masako asked me to conduct the ceremony I told her that I am not religious. "Neither is anyone else but you will look better on the photos than the American priest the Garden Chapel Soleil offered us," she reasoned.

And so I enter the cloth and leliver the nuptials, "Do you Kenichi Fujimoto take this woman Masako Kanazawa to be your lawful wedded wife?"

I look up at the groom through my age-fast spectacles, with my hands on the altar, holy as can be. High above, stained-glass windows set the fairytale scene as white doves fly over faraway castles and

cascades fall into fertile valleys. I wait nervously for Kenichi's confirmation in English. "I do."

I am told to emphasise the word "love" in my mock-sermon. "Love trusts. Love perseveres . . . Love Is All You Need."

In the land where the wrapping is s important as the gift, Japan's long history of adapting imported ideas means that borrowing the Christian ceremony for the purpose of giftwrapping marriage is not a problem for most Japanese. Style glosses over religion to the point that Westerners with no credentials other than being Westerners can become fake priests. One such man from the United States earns \$800 a day. He tells me: "Its good if you can get

everyone to cry." The hotel chapel where he works has imported an old church from England, complete with original stained glass, wooden beams and squeaking pews, and built it into the top of a high-rise wedding complex in downtown Osaka. The brochure

invites you to "take a walk down the virgin road in a pure white dress". Chapel weddings account for around 40 per cent of weddings in modern Japan. And as the planning of the wedding ceremony is the

yomesan (flower bride) being the focus of attention.

Considered romantic and relaxed, chapel ceremonies provide an alternative to traditional Japanese Shinto weddings - family affairs with no smiles, no kisses and, according to most young Japanese women, "no style". In such a ceremony the bride is harnessed into a heavy kimono, topped with a wig weighing about 2kg, and on top of that a tsunokukushi — a white hat that is sald to hide women's jealousy horns.

"I pronounce you husband and wife," I said. Feeling reverent, I instruct Kenichi to kiss Masako, All the watery eyes in the Garden Chapel Soleil gaze at the hanayomesan. Standing between huge displays of synthetic flowers and electric candles, the chorus sings "Memories" as the happy couple float down the "virgin road" for the confetti "flower-shower". Outside the chapel two inflatable love-doves are released into the sky over La Viena Wedding Complex Inc.

"Wedding factories" are popular because they efficiently herd families from the chapel and shrine. through the photo-studio, and on to the all-important reception — an oscontations display of wealth originating from the traditional arranged marriages that consolidated business relations between families.

We travel this ceremonia conveyor-belt to the reception extravaganza. The lights drop and a synthesiser plays Abba's "Dancing Queen". A single spotlight falls on the happy couple as they head for the stage, which is flanked by a smoking plastic wedding cake.

By now defrocked, I mingle with menage of the traditional and the modern: picking at raw squid and roast beef, family guests in kimonos bearing ancestral crests sit with the "OLs" — the office ladies immacuate in velvet Versace suits and attachments of fake flowing hair.

The couple's bosses praise their employees' work-ethics and the screeching MC interviews the newly-weds about the happy day by radio-mike, "Flower bride, what dish can you cook best for the groom?" Still princess for the day, Masako

smiles and says, "instant noodles". Everyone is delighted but the clock is about to strike midnight. Tearfully, Masako and Kenichi give lowers to their parents. The happy couple are going to honeymoon in Australia and must jump the Tokyo ship before it turns into a pumpkin.

Hotes & Queries Joseph Harker

STHERE a finite number of people in line to the English frome? If so, who is last?

GBERT, who died in 839AD, is generally reckoned to be the first king of England. Most English, Selsh, Scots, Irish, Australians, Canadians, New Zealanders and North Americans, together with a substantial number of people from Europe and the Middle East, will be increased from him. Several people ave made valiant efforts to list al en royal descendants, but with-

tmore than partial success. Even if we could list them all, geting them into the correct batting er would present immense diffobjes. The throne of England has des passed on on pragmatic rather but theoretical grounds. Devising a the which validates everything that as actually happened is not that easy. or example, both Bloody Mary and Good Queen Ress were legally illegitimate at the time of their successions, of the claims of others have been

Roman Catholics are barred by ture, so perhaps a symbolic ansecreto the supplementary question is the Pope.

Control, Durham

WHERE does the phrase "by a long chalk" come from?

T REFERS to marking with chalk (before lead pencils were in common use) the points that a player or team has won in a game. A long chalk means a large number of points, so a great deal. A further reference is to the old custom in alehouses of writing up with chalk the amount of credit given. — Basil Margan, Uppingham, Norfolk

HAS anyone ever seriously researched time travel?

Claremont, California, USA

WHY is the lion referred to as "the king of the jungle" when it lives in open country?

Any answers to put his head in a lion's

mouth? Has this been tried with

WHAT is scruggin, as in scruggin cake? — E Knott,

a tiger? — Gerard Mackay,

WHAT is the origin of the phrase "A shot in the arm"? — Christine Zilius Mason

WHY is it called the mission ary position? — Martin Klopper, Taichung, Taiwan

-mail answers to weekly@quardlan co.lik; fax to (+44)171-242 0985. or Førningdon Rd, Löndon EC1M 3HQ: 1 The Notes & Queries website is at!"

Meg Rooney

A LICE SPRINGS: The rocks of Ndhala Gorge tell many stories. As you walk along the river flat between sculptured red peaks, you can pick up chunks of sandstone that carry tales of the past. "

There are the tracks of trilopites, which scuttled on the sandy bottom of a great inland sea here 500 million years ago. These spiny underwater beetles dicked up distinctive ridges of " sand as they scavenged in

Rock surfaces pock-marked by parallel tubes tell of marine burrows on an ancient beach.

shing back and forth on this beach. Patterns of mud cracks, filled with sand, tell of intertidal flats that swamped with water, then dried and cracked.

dots mark where they came out of the rock to continue their

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AARGARET THATCHER had With British returning to the Victorian era. And General Curtis LeMay tried to bomb the Vietnamese back to the Stone Age. - Ken Frank,

IUNGLE is a Hindl word meaning not an inhabited place". The word covers forest, wilderness, wold, waste, even the world (without human structures). The empha- http://nq.duardlan.co.uk/ "

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A Country Diary

shallow water near the shore:

worms that dug vertical !!

Another animal has also left its mark on the landscape. According to the Abortgines, caterpillars were one of the ancestral reatures that formed this gorge. Many of the large boulders are etched with their tracks, and there is evidence of the butterflies into which they grew. Where they entered the rock, the ancestral caterpillars left dots surrounded by circles. Single



David Sharrock in Jerusalem reports on the growing popularity of Israel's latest anti-hero

AST month, some of the most secretive and sensitive establishments in the United States, including Nasa and the Pentagon, came under attack from an outside force. Entry was by that now familiar method, a computer linked to the internet.

The lack of novelty was more than made up by the charge from the US undersecretary of defence, John Hammer, that the perpetrator was responsible for "the most systematic and organised attempt ever to penetrate the Pentagon's

In terms of hysteria, the story got better by the minute. The computer hacker called himself Analyser" and was from the Middle East. Forty seven FBI agents, news agencies reported, were conducting an urgent worldwide search for the

Too bad then that the quarry turned himself in, revealing his identity to an Internet magazine as a teenage Israeli boy looking forward to being called up for military service. That was last month. Since then Eliud Tenenbaum has achieved star status in his native country, even as Washington

With Tenenbaum now under house arrest at home in the Tel Aviv commuter town of Hod Hasharon. and the israeli parliament keen for him to address one of their committees, the questions are beginning to pile up. What drove Tenenbaum to of an FBI officer to tell the bureau

Why then does nobody in Israel, from the prime minister, Binyamin Netanyahu, down, have a bad word

News, an English-language Israeli "pupils" in the US, with whom he corresponded by e-mail, had been arrested by the FBI in connection with hacking activities. Tenenbaum had planted a list of his own pass words within the Pentagon's computer system and passed them on to his pupils "Makaveli" and "Tooshort", residents of Cloverdale, in

According to Tenenbaum, hacking into major computer systems in the US was an intellectual challenge. I never destroy a thing on a server. it's only the challenge of breaking in. I know I'm going to retire soon and I haven't taught anyone what I know

In Israel no one, from Netanyahu down, has a bad word for him

about hacking. Makaveli didn't stop nagging me, he had a true desire to learn . . . I felt it was a waste to let all my knowledge go.

"I gave him some hacking tools I've programmed and some access basswords to my servers. Mak probably didn't realise how serious this stuff can be. It's important that you realise that those two didn't break into any computer. They just tried to use my passwords list." After the FBI raided the Califor-

nia homes of his internet friends, Tenenbaum hacked the home page break cover and is he as dangerous that he was the only person they as the US would have us believe?

The Analyser met his Californian friends in a multinational group known as "the Enforcers", which hangs out in chat channels on the Web. The group's main activity is fighting racist and paedophile Web sites. The Enforcers have already

threatened to cause "many problems" if their comrades are jailed. "None of us knows who the others are in real life," said Tenenbaum. The group also found a way into the Knesset, the Israeli parliament. The Analyser followed his usual routine, searching for security holes and blocking them. This practice is

"mark territory", preventing other hackers from gaining access. The only alterations they made were to the Knesset's home page and President Ezer Weizman's home page - the latter "because we love him", according to the Analyser. If he feels differently about Netanyahu and his wife, Sarah, he is saying nothing, but the Israeli first couple's Web site has been tampered with in recent weeks so that Net visitors are transferred to sites of pornographic images.

The Analyser said he was retiring because I've had enough. I've had offers from abroad to 'cross the border' and be head of security in some servers. I would cross the border and work with the FBI, but I don't trust them. They'll sue me if

The interview at a suburban McDonalds ended there, but Tenenbaum's relationship with the FBI was just beginning. Within days of the interview appearing, 10 FBI investigators and officials were in Israel to "assist" police in their criminal inquiry. Two other Israelis, both aged 18, have also had their passports confiscated and continue



Tenenbaum claims the attacks

sage to would-be computer hackers all over the world that the United States will treat computer intrusions as serious crimes," said the US attorney general, Janet Reno. "We will work around the world and in the depths of cyberspace to investigate and prosecute those who attack computer networks."

If there is a whiff of witchhunt swirling around Washington, then in Israel Tenenbaum's popularity seems to rise by the day. Netanyahu's first comment on the affair was that the Analyser was "damn good", before quickly adding that he could be "very dangerous too".

Tenenbaum has acquired a their ability to hack into compain media-friendly lawyer, Amnon

Zichroni, who is fighting a man public campaign to keep sympa flowing. "It appears to me is brought benefit to the Penlago."

In appears he campa and discount of the Penlago. in essence he came and discount the Pentagon's coding weaking says Zichroni, adding sardand that the US authorities shi maybe pay Tenenbaum for h

before the Knesser's committee

yahu's reaction to Tenenbaum's a tivities. "This isn't a game or aid but rather a phenomenon with causes real damage. In my viewly, Analyser is a vandal, not a here."

Zichroni may have the best exp nation for a battle that owner of vast and important networks see destined to lose. "In the past w used to boast about the girs what. Nowadays kids boast about

Wino Konis Santana

HEN I first met Nino Konis Santana, the comand development. Its charmons | W W mander of the East Timo-Dalia Itzik, has said that she took rese guerrilla movement Falintil, there is no criminal case to asset who has dled aged 39, he told me of From all the reports I'm hand his worst moment. It was 1990 and this is a young man who did what he was in an eight-strong unit amdid not from criminal intent, but | bushed by the Indonesian army. Six a challenge. He didn't cause to of his unit were killed outright. He age, but rather exposed face it was shot in the neck, thigh and fool, terms of the protection of imports computer information . . his has in the back. They crawled to safety amount of knowledge should in some bushes; he was naked but used to help the state, but this it; had a gun. The two men hid for a in accord with accepted rules z. week, living on grass. Eventually, standards." But in an abrupt change a nursed them back to health. His attitude. Tenenbaum stopped o comrade was to die in a later battle. operating with detectives las last our neeting took place in 1994 in month, apparently after kamin the East Timorese mountains. We

that several US computer comp talked solidly for 48 hours, first in a nies are considering filing civils: safe house and later in a forest clearing after a pre-dawn mountain Internet service provider & march. Santana, charming and mer-Decks claims that it has spent he curial with bushy hair and a mandreds of hours in repair work with darin beard, had reluctantly taken officials at Western Michigan : weras commander of Falintil a year versity have had to change the earlier. He was the fifth holder of passwords. Net Decks's directed the post since the Indonesian inva-Bill Zayan, was furious at New sion of the former Portuguese

> The first East Timorese leader, Nicolau Lobato, died in 1979. His three successors were all captured



and held his hand. He explained gently that they were of the resistance and that he must never speak of what he had seen. The interloper

ing with a heavily armed guerrilla

Jili Jollitte

Nino konis Santana, liberation fighter, born 1959; died March 11,

Paradoxes of a democrat

E M Sankara Namboodiripad

THE ELECTION of E M Sankara Namboodiripad, who has died aged 88, as chief minister of Kerala in 1957 created a sensation. For his elevation made him head of the world's first democratically elected

The reality was a government following mainstream socialist policies, yet within two years India's president had dismissed it, arguing that "law and order" had broken down. The tactical error of E M S as he was known - had been to take on two vested interests with his land and educational reform bills.

E M S was born into a Bralunin family in northern Kerala, then part of the Madras Presidency. The state was castigated at the time by Vivekananda, a saintly Hindu reformer, as a madhouse of caste. Travel by train "polluted" the higher castes, and as late as 1936 the lower castes threatened to convert en masse to Christianity if they were not allowed to walk past the tentples. There was not merely untouchability but unseeability, with prescribed distances as to how near you could approach a Brahmin. E M S rejected this privileged existence, living humbly throughout his life — indeed he gave his share of the family estate to the Communist

He was the movement's most articulate thinker. During the

Communist Party of India's 1963-4 crisis between pro-China leftists and Moscow-leaning rightists, he was a centrist, and when a split became nevitable he aligned himself with the left but was denounced by China because he steered the breakaway Communist Party of India (Marxist) from the excesses of Maoism and of the China-backed ultra-left Naxalites.

He was Kerala's chief minister again in 1967-69 within a left progressive coalition. It did not work. Mired in the corruption of minor parties, conflict with the central government and quarrels between he rump CPI and the stronger CPI(M), the government passed, unmourned

E M S was a paradox. Personally a democrat, he backed Stalin's actions n eastern Europe, and disapproved of Mikhail Gorbachev's attempts to reform the Soviet Union and of China's economic liberalisation.

Both admirers and critics believe that had he understood the reasons for China's economic reform, the his home state of Kerala would have been quicker. In old age his mind became inflexible. None the less. M S is one of the outstanding figures of 20th century Kerala.

He is survived by his wife, two ons and two daughters.

Tom Nossiter

E M Sankara Namboodirioad. politician, born June 14, 1909; died

Log on for a bumpy ride

WHILE Captain John Hackett last week shrugged off a hero's welcome for saving a plane laden with Leeds United footballers, following a fire in the turbine seconds after take off at London's Stansted airport, colleagues were busy analysing his split-second decision making. Three times within recent months, British pilots have been praised for seizing the initiative and transforming potential air borne disasters into controlled crash landings.

Last August a British Region Airways flight from Manchester came down safely after its undercarriage jammed. Last November a Virgin airliner with similar problems skid-

clans and union officials fret over the dangers from increased traffic, one public website on the Internet provides an uncensored - and sometimes disconcerting - insight into life on today's instrumentburdened flight decks.

PPRuNe, otherwise known as the Professional Pilots' Rumour Network, may read like laddish cockpitto-cockpit banter, with occasional

contributors. Some journalists' only qualification for writing stories, one comment suggested, was a "liking for Airfix kits".

Other pilots were pondering whether they would have taken the same action in the circumstances, "There's no computer that can make these types of decisions for us," one correspondent admitted. "It comes down to skill and experience."

Scanning the site's pages, exchanges more often consist of oressing, personal issues — such as finding out which airline pays the highest wages. "Virgin is a wonder ful airline to fly for," one anonymous pilot enthuses.

"Average work pattern (747) is Branson's house every year . . . Everyone is friendly and almost all the girls are blondel Job hopping among "Nigels", as pilots call themselves, is also a recurrent theme.

But it is the plaintive queries about air safety lodged on the PPRuNe website that jar most on the lay reader's desire for self-preservation en route to holidays or

business meetings,
"Even those [African] countries references to which companies employ the sexiest female crew. But last week the online talk was all about the close call at Stansted airport Passauteent of transferences. There was nearly a mid-air countries that have reasonable Air Traffic Control are joining the slippery slope downhill," one pilot comments. There was nearly a mid-air countries that have reasonable Air Traffic Control are joining the slippery slope downhill, one pilot comments. There was nearly a mid-air alroort Resentment of uninformed | collision in Botswana. A north

System] warning in one aircraft." Another correspondent worries

about a recent near miss near Big-gin Hill, in Kent; "It strikes me both sets of aircrew should have been aware of who was above and below in the [holding] stack and perhaps queried the ATC instructions when the higher aircraft was cleared to

Nearly all contributors are unnamed. A reminder on its website declares: This is an anonymous forum. The origins of the contributions may be opposite to what may

bound plane was cleared to climb | obviously not alone in worrying through the level of a south bound plane. The [authorities] are keeping about future air safety. Projections show air traffic in Britain growing t Heathrow. The four trips a month. As these flights quiet on this, however the controller are three to four days, we have a lot was immediately suspended. The been mercifully absent from the headlines.

Of time off . . . Icing on the cake is a superb garden party at Richard TCAS [Traffic Collision Avoidance Stuart Matthews, president of the Collision Avoidance Stuart

South America, Africa and large parts of Asia, he believes. Over the

tance to these areas. If we do not, be apparent."

Those who use PPRuNe are Matthews said. the problems will become greater,"

PPRuNe's role in providing bublic forum for this safety delar s grudgingly accepted by point sional bodies. The anonymity it accepted, allows staff to the warnings without fear of retribute

from their employers.

The pilots' union, Balpa, insist has "nothing to do" with PPRofe "Some of the pilots I have spoke to," a spokesman adds, "think it puerile stuff spoils it." But is Magee, of the Institute of Puts sional and Managerial Staff, ship represents most of the UK's 2500s. traffic controllers, says the websit "shows the concern about the k of safety out there".

Equally worrying, Mager not bains, is pressure on overworks air traffic staff not to file "oreign reports" when they believe the handling too many alreraft in the sector. "Some of these reports being derailed and stopped People

very real possibility" in the future, Stuart Matthews, president of the Washington-based Flight Safety Foundation, an independent watchdog, claimed last month.

The greatest risks are in the "undeveloped world", particularly South America, Africa and large parts of Asia has here. downside of our profession PPRuNe, one pilot notes. It was parts of Asia, he believes. Over the past 10 years, 70 per cent of all accidents have involved carriers who have accounted for only 16 per cent of the total air traffic.

"The majority of these were from underdeveloped or Third World countries. We need to provide assistance to these areas. If we do not

PPRuNe is on: http://www.evnet.co.uk/ pprune/index.html

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talk of the leadership passing out-

antana was born near eastern

Lautem in Lospalos. He received a

Catholic education and qualified as

a teacher's aide. In 1974, at the age

of 16, he got involved in politics, and

after the Indonesian occupation the

following year he joined the guerril-

las in the mountains, where he was

As for his death, the direct cause,

nis colleagues said, was a fall from

an escarpment in heavy mist while

returning from a patrol. But he had

younds. He was said to be moving

long suffered from untreated war

with difficulty because of gangrene

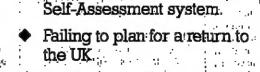
from a bullet lodged in his thigh

since 1990.

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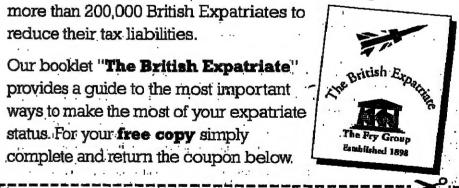
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Prozac for the

human soul

Nancy Banks-Smith

OKTOBER (ITV) is one of those paranoid thrillers

where the hero does a lot of run-

ning because Absolutely Every-

one le Out To Get Him. Jim Har-

per (Stephen Tompkinson), who is besotted by Rochelle, a phar-

maceutical heiress, gatecrashes

a top-secret conference on a

TELEVISION

Computers have learnt to jam just like Charlie

Parker. Well, almost. Steven Poole reports

Bird by mouse

AN A computer swing? Sure it can, if you hang it up by a rope and kick it hard enough. No, man, what I'm saying is: can a digital cat play jazz? Jazz, the apotheosis of cool, the fiery crucible of 20th century musical authenticity, the spontaneous outpouring of one man or woman's artistic self-expression through the irreducibly physical medium of a sax, a trumpet, a piano, a double bass? That's one citadel of humanity, surely, that could never be stormed by the creeping hordes of artificial intelligence.

Never? Better think twice. Last month on BBC television jazz saxophonist Courtney Pine was jamming along on his soprano to the sounds of a computerised jazz quartet. Nothing unusual there: computers have been able to provide adequate. if stiff-backed, accommuniment to practising soloists for years. But then Pine stopped blowing - and another, invisible saxophone continued to play with impressive fluidity and melodic interest across the harmonies, sounding weirdly like the late giant of the alto. Charlie Parker. Extraordinarily, this was the work of a computer program. Improvisor, and - crucially - the ghostly sax was not just playing a predetermined line, but making it up as it went along in real time, just like a real jazz musician does.

The necromancer responsible to summoning up this digital revenant is jazz musician Paul Hodgson, who is also a skilled computer programmer. His interest in the subject began in the eighties, when he was working as a music teacher, trying to teach children how to play jazz. He knocked up a program that. while playing the chords of a song, would analyse the harmony to work out and play a mode for the current stage of the time ta "mode" is a kind of altered scale). His students could then listen and pick up the appropriare modes as they went along, to the great Bird was amere patterner? give them some basic building

blocks for soloiny. In the meantime Hodgson began to wonder whether he could get the computer itself to generate an in-And that is



Paul Hodgson jams with his creation, Improvisor PHOTOLEAMONN McCABE

lie Parker comes in. "I started | real time, the computation becomes analysing lots of Parker solos," Hodgson remembers, "trying to look for patterns and repetitive structures that he was using, and seeing if I could work out a way in which these solos could actually be put together. I abstracted out sets of good while — if ever. variable-length patterns from different solos, and then I started working on ways of applying these patterns to different tunes, to create new solos. And that's basically what you

In jazz the term "pattern" cun denote a group of notes that a musician learns to play at speed in memerous keys until it can be instantly recalled during a solo — the notes full naturally under the fingers, leaving the brain free to figure out what to play next. Some musicians don't do any more than this. An unimpressed (or envious) jazzer might damn a colleague with the gravelly expletive "patterner".

In this way the method of the program Improvisor is close to the way a mediocre musician operates. But thes the fact that Parker's style can be imitated by a computer mean that

Of course not, "It doesn't actually tell you how the patterns were created in the first place," Hodgson. observes. "Parker might use similar patterns, but he modifies and sculpts them to the context of the

music that he's playing." That said, Hodgson has found to his surprise that the computer comes up with phrases that he has never heard Bird use. "It's actually creating new stuff — and some of it is bloody good. This raises the question of whether Bird's style could evolve further in cyberspace."

Flodgson has concluded that one aspect of creativity is the way an artist chooses patterns and puts them together. "It applies to painting as well. 'You've only got to look at 20th century art and abstract painting to see that there are lots of common pat-

terns that artists are using. However, the reason top players are popular is not just the notes they play, but the distinct characterstics of the sound they make. If you add to Hodgson's melodic calculations something to account for this Parker . . . out soon on CD-Rom idiosyncratic control of timbre in but it'll never know how it feels to fly.

forbiddingly complex. And, of course, any real jazz natsician is always listening to what everyone else in the band is doing — which Improvisor doesn't do. There'll be no silicon stars of free jazz for

Courtney Pine's own verdict on the computer program was interestlurly mixed. On the first take, which the BBC didn't show because of the pungent language. Pine said it was 'bloody brilliant". But as for replacing humans — well, no cigar yet. "You can't replace the human experience, the human feel," Pine smiled. "What's missing, I suppose, is some of the soul, some of the spirit."

ODGSON'S own researches have brought him to the conclusion that the idea of a tup-flight artificial musician is an oxymoron: To create music you have to be alive in the world. It's not possible." What he is now looking at instead are ways to use his system to create new musical interfaces for disabled children, and for artists working in other media. Computerised image-tracking could provide an instantaneous soundtrack for a ballet, or future disco queens could alter a record's sound with flailing

In a way his work has pleasingly come full circle: from trying to replicate human creativity electronically, to producing an electronic tool that can be used to enhance human creativity. This will be a relief to people who prefer to snap their fingers at a real, groovy-shirted person on stage, rather than nod their heads at an offensively beige

lump of extruded plastic. And Hodgson sounds a note of warning: "Maybe there's an inprinciple limit to what we can do. It's our quest to eat from the Tree of Knowledge and be completely knowledgeable about everything in the world - and in so doing, what we could easily do is destroy it, by building things that don't have any spiritual consciousness and become out of our control." With that unpalatable scenario ringing in our ears, perhaps it's best to go back to the old records again. After all, a computer might study ornithology,

Radio active

CD REVIEWS Tim Ashley

AXOS deserve an award. Using archive material V supplied by the Canadian based Immortal Performances of Recorded Music Society, they've secured the commercial release of operatic radio broadcasts, taken from live perfornances from 1937-1943, some f them hitherto only available as expensive bootlegs.

Not everyone will like them: recording techniques weren't ideal then, although the sound is always acceptable and in some instances astonishingly good. Critical editions weren't in vogue in those days either, so if you blanch at the idea of cuts, think twice. If you've any sense, however, you'll buy at least four and preferably six of the seven, because - with one exception they contain some of the greatest performances in music history.

The exception is Strauss's Night In Venice, from Berlin in 1938. Marcel Wittrisch is an elegant Caramelio and Carla Spietter is aristocratic as Annina. but the conducting is studgy and the dialogue goes on forever. You can either cope with Third Reich recordings or you can't. Here, the quality of the performance doesn't justify its release

The rest, however, are very different. They derive from the famous Saturday matinée Met broadcasts at a time when the company — made up of America's pest singers and exiled legends who had fled from Hitler. Mussolini or Stalin - was at its peak. Operatic tradition, under attack in Europe, was fiercely defended on the other side of the Atlantic. The artists' commitment is breathtaking and you get an electric excitement that no atudio recording could generate. This is what music, and opera in particular, is all about.

The urgency of contemporary political events clearly turned a potentially good performance of La Fille Du Regiment, in the winter of 1940, into a great one. France had fallen, and when Lily Pons, as the regimental mascot Marie, launches into her barnstorming final aria, the audience goes berserk. The much criticised Pons was a wonderful comedienne, and coloratura has rarely been as stunning as it is here.

Salvatore Baccaloni is a bilarious dirty old man as Serge Sulpice. Raoul Jobin is a loud ng Tonio, while Ira Pettine

tions of Hofmann's demonic alter-ego. René Maison, as Hulmann, gets the characters unnerving ambiguity absolution right. Vina Bovy sharply differ entiates the four female siere types — automaton, whore, victimised walf and campdiathat haunt his imagination. There's wonderful conducting too, from Maurice Abrayand

Bruno Walter's 1942 Don Glovanni, the stuff of legend, 🖫 never been bettered. Walter catches every emotional fida and moral nuance of Mozar's their infinitely sad lives.
multi-faceted score. The Mars two great rival basses, Ezio Pinza and Alexander Kipsis. make the best Glovanni and Leporello imaginable. Rose Bampton's blazing Annaisa woman on the edge of a nervel breakdown, Jarmila Novolta's Elvira is fiery and vulnerable. An upmissable reissue.

Erich Leinsdor's reputation as a variable Wagnerian dense from his rather stolid studie recordings. Live, it was a different story: his Tristan is wonder fully paced. Lauritz Melchioca the best tenor you will ever has in Wagner. Helen Traubel, the Met's rival to the legendary Kirsten Flagstad's Isolde, is all rage and passion, funking one

top C, otherwise steady as a rock tracks movie roles of the decade.

The Faust and Alceste, hour land in Peter Fonda he has found not in the same league, are worth having, Gluck's master piece finds Bampton paired with Maison. Although she appar ently took over the performance at whort notice, she's wonder fully vivid. Maison is in beautit voice and Ettore Panizza cor ducts perfectly.

Gounod's war-horse is a two man show with Pinza fabulous Mephistopheles, and the your Leonard Warren an excellent is entin. Pelleter drives it too had though, and Richard Crooks's Faust is passionless, Helen Jepson is weak as Marguerite. though the audience goes will for her. The excitement that she was capable of generating live didn't, it seems, transfer to dis.

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Holding a mirror up to desolation

Michael Billington

#HAVE measured out my life in Marquise de Birkenfeld sound like Lady Bracknell on speed of productions, by Laurence Olivier The Tales Of Hofmann is not and Peter Stein, will haunt me to my Uncle Vanyas; indeed two particunotable for Lawrence Tibbes, the century's greatest barian is SC/Young Vic co-production is not definitive as the four manifest tions of Hofmann's demaniest still a treasurable occasion likely to cenetrate the memory for days af-

David Lan, in the published Introduction to his new version, makes a subtle point that whereas The Sea-gull belongs to the 19th century theatre, in Uncle Vanya Chekhov was writing the first modern play. That strikes me as profoundly true, in that atmosphere prevails over incident. By the end all that has really happened is that Vanya and his niece, Sonya, have come face to fare with the waste and desolation

in Uncle Vanya, Chekhov discards melodrama; yet how beautifully he orchestrates the

A taste

Richard Williams

CINEMA

of honey

N ULYSSES IACKSON, a taci-

ture grandfather who keeps bees

in the swamps of the Florida pan-

handle, the writer and director

e ideal actor. Ulee's Gold is a

ilm of many admirable parts, but in

he end it is about one role and one

The art that Fonda brings to

Clae's Gold is something only

chema can reveal. How crazy, then,

that this year's Academy Award

should have gone instead to Jack

icholson, his old colleague. What

icholson does in As Good As It

se the impact of his performance

Ulee's Gold is reinforced by the

^{e waich} the film, we find ourselves

adering about him, about where

ie's been and what he's done. And,

in one very specific way, our specu-

ation nourishes our understanding

of Ulce Jackson.

ntimacy through restraint.

quotidian realities of life. And the a mirror held up, with heartrending great thing about Mitchell's production is that it combines minute attention to detail with rigorous sense of form. She also has the confidence never to raise her voice: she allows us to eavesdrop, as it were on intimate conversations to often devastating effect. Only in the moment where Vanva tries to shoot the

Professor does the production miss

Chekhov's tragi-comic momentum.

This is a rich, detailed production blessed by some excellent performances. Stephen Dillane's Vanya is an angry obsessive who sees everywhere a mockery of his own wasted potential. Anastasia Hille's Yelena likewise seems torn apart by her awareness of her own futility. Like all the best Sonyas, Jo McInnes makes you feel that Astrov, in rejecting her, is ruining his own chance of happiness and Linus Roache makes of obstinate, draining penury? Astrov himself a quietly sensitive man alert to the destructiveness of idleness. But perhaps the real

accuracy, to nature itself.

Like all Irish writers, Brian Friel obsessed by exile and homecoming. But his latest, very Chekhovian, play, Give Me Your Answer Do at London's Hampstead theatre is specifically about the writer's sense of exile from self: and it goes on to suggest, with haunting poignancy, that most of us stagger through life adopting masks to disguise our inner uncertainty. That makes the play sound

abstract. In fact it is rivetingly specific. The setting is Ballybeg in County Donegal. And the dilemma facing the hero - a blocked, hardup novelist called Tom Connolly is direct: should he sell his manuscripts to a rich Texan university. assuming they make a handsome offer, or should he persist in his life

But that is only the peg for an exploration of the insecurity felt most acutely by the writer but comquality of the production lies in the fact that you emerge feeling you absolute conviction by Niail Buggy, have seen less a piece of drama than | Connolly is an awkward, shambling

figure ill at ease in company and only truly himself when weaving antasies to amuse his mute, institutionalised daughter. But as his wife says of writers: "You're unhappy in the world you inhabit and you're more unhappy in the fictional world you create; so you drift through life ike exiles from both places."

This is much more, however, than an incestuous play about the plight of the writer: with nonudgmental compassion, Friel implies that we most of us lead lives of quiet desperation. For all this, the play is very funny. The sight of two writers, joined at the hip by fraternal insecurity and a sense of mutual envy, has a hilarious accuracy: even the casual cruelties people inflict on one arouse bilious laughter. But in the end the play moves one by Friel's insistence that we all play roles to camouflage our uncertainty; the only difference with writers is that they are more likely to reveal the face behind the mask.

Robin Lefevre's production is beautifully alert to the play's tragicomic mood. Friel is back on top form, writing about life's disappointments with a wrenching honesty

Swiss mountain-top to see her, You do feel that this is the action of a much sillier man than Tompkinson, Which may be why he is sporting a mop of unac-

customed curls, giving him a lousied air. Rochelle, who is as warm and womanly as the north face of the Eiger, is enthusing her troops with news of the company's new wonder drug. "It'll bring in \$3,000,000,000 per year. It is a

gift from God. No mind-altering drug has ever gone as deep as this one. Its potential is limitless. Prozac for the human soul." The only problem was that it put you in a coma. (Rochelle and her huge Swiss

drug company are, of course, no relation to Roche, the huge Swiss drug company. Though her place I'd be changing my name to Doris by deed poll before a jumbo jet full of lawyers

The drug's most striking quality is that it tops the subconscious. Those who take it find they are are in telepathic contact. They sense each other's pain and communicate in dreams, like wolves howling across the wilderness. There is a good deal of talk about the colective unconscious but it will only give you a headache. (Try an aspirin.)
Jim is killed in the first reel,

6

which would make this a very brief thriller indeed if Rochelle hadn't revived him ("I'll go in through the nipple") with a shot of wonder drug. He is now a lab animal and,

as such, his value is flatteringly enhanced, "\$50,000,000 on legsl" So he legs lt.

When Jim's doctor offers him the use of his sesside home, he doesn't think that odd. I am on perfectly affable terms with my doctor. Not once has the bastard offered me the use of his seaside home. Jim also trusts Rochelle, Linds and a gaggle of young people he meets in a pub, who offer the warmest camaraderie on the briefest acquaintance Every last one is in on it.

It's a good-looking thriller that nips along nicely. But will whoever it is that keeps saying "Oh, don't be so silly!" please shut up? Oh, it's me.

The meandering and charming Lion Country (BBC1) is half way home. Lord Bath, however, is not. He is in St Tropez with his multi-coloured kaftau. He is vivid proof how much duller life would be without the happy happenstance of the hereditary system. As was once said approvingly about the Order of the Bath, "There's no dawn merit about it. You never know what's going to pop up next out of the bath." In this case it's a rather endearing old duck.



All stillness and suppressed anguish . . . Peter Fonds in Victor Nunez's Ulee's Gold

uels is the kind of acting, all geswe and grimace, that you can see As he deflects Connie's offers of by night in the theatre. Fonda, by assistance, we realise that this is a contrast, deploys the screen actor's kill of creating the illusion of man so committed to self-sufficiency that he has hermeticised himself. But a telephone call summoning Cinema also offers the potential him to rescue Helen and a trap set a productive interaction between by Jimmy's former accomplices fictional character and the propel him into a new relationship tor's public identity. In Fonda's

with the world. Nunez sketches in the Vietnam shaped Ulee's adult life, fracturing its sense of continuity. And here is where the echoes of Fonda's personal history resonate inside the role. We associate him with the antiestablishment mood of the late sixties, and so an ironic counterpoint plays in our minds alongside the

A Vicinam veteran, Ulee scrapes living by harvesting honey from bees led on the pollen of tupelo gum film's narrative. ites, a skill handed down through All stillness and suppressed an-Aree generations, The bees and I guish, Fonda turns Ulysses Jackson are an understanding," he tells a into a role that Clint Eastwood might have killed to play, and there are outhardson). "I take care of them, standing subsidiary performances ad they take care of me." from Christine Dunford as Helen, No one else does. A failed bank | Jessica Biel (Casey) and Vanessa ery has put his son, Jimmy, in Zima (Penny). The scenes following

Jimmy's wife, Helen, is running Helen's return, when the girls look in another town. In their abon as Ulee and Connie subject their ce, tiles is looking after his two! mother to an informal detoxification, mage granddaughters, Casey are authentically harrowing.

dialogue makes Ulee's Gold feel like the screenplay Raymond Carver might have written. "Now me, I'm divorced," Connie tells Ulee. Twice, actually. No kids, fortunately." A pause. "I guess fortunately." Only the ending, although dramatically justified, comes as a

background with a light touch, but like Oscar and Lucinda to the trouser combinations, makes a simi-we are left in no doubt that the war screen is the unlikelihood of avoid larly decent fist of Lucinda, and ing offence to the very people responsible for its success. Those readers whose imaginations were fired by Peter Carey's magical story of the strange liaison between a lamaged young English parson and a spirited young Australian factory owner in the late 19th century will inevitably be the first to take offence at the tampering with their

dreams. In terms of sensitivity and fidelity. the 1988 Booker Prize-winner could hardly ask for a more devoted servant than Gillian Armstrong, a long-term friend of the author. Armstrong and her scriptwriter, Laura Jones, have probably done everything they could to preserve the particular mood of this complicated daring and literary novel

With straw-like hair and a petri- I and its tone too whimsical. Its spare, piercingly accurate

fied smile, Ralph Fiennes certainly satisfies Carey's description of the vulnerable, aquaphobic Oscar Hop-kins: "He was light, airy, made from the quills of a bird . . . The eyes were so clean and unprotected, like freshly peeled fruit."

Cate Blanchett, lean and swift,

the unorthodoxy of her upbringing The trouble with bringing a book reflected in a series of frock-andboth she and Fiennes work hard to create a convincing relationship between the two, which begins with card sessions on board ship from England to Australia and is sustained when they reach her homeland, only to be ruptured by a tragic misapprehension. While there is no way of trans-

lating Carey's incantatory rhythms to a screenplay, his climactic sequence might have been made for celluloid, and the result is undeniably spectacular. Armstrong sets a glass church afloat on the Bellinger river, Lucinda's gift to the extled Rev Dennis Hasset (Ciaran Hands) The vision of this beautiful structure gliding between the river's wooded banks will strike even those who find the pace of the film pedestrian

ROP a name and watch me for famous names, with one proviso - they have to be dead for only then can they be truly romantic. I'm also a sucker for romance. Given these proclivities how could I fail to relish Strangers: A Family Romance by Emma Tennant, a part fictional, part biographical account of her rich, privileged, titled, profilgate and pretty much hopeless

The Tennants were never Premier League toffs - nowhere near as grand as the Devonshires (Emma's grandfather was the first Baron Glenconner), as clever as the Howards or as eccentric as the Redes. Tragic is the usual tabloid dies of Aids or falls out with Princess Margaret. I'd just call them sad.

back to those famous names. The rying, famous people. Emma's great aunt Margot married H H Asquith and served quails' eggs, consommé and crown roast to Winston Churchill and Rupert Brooke at No 10.

affair with Lionel Tennyson, grand-When the prime minister wrote him an admonishing letter, the young bounder replied: "Dear Mr Asquith, you are an interfering old buger class chaps such illiterate twits?

Lord Alfred Douglas was grandmother Pamela's first cousin. Enoma's half-brother Colin invited

another member gets disinherited, | Princess Margaret to stay at the So why their fascination? We're

Pennants collected them; if they had single talent, it was for surrounding themselves with, better still mar-

Her married aunt Clare had an son of the poet, who went on to captain the English cricket team. modesty and finesse". The second part is told by the author herself. One of Emma Tennant's skills as [sic]." Shades of Bonnie Prince Charlie's rabets. Why are uppera novelist is her visual acuity. Louisa's section is full of details of

shooting parties and picnics, and bristles with gossip — Asquith was apparently infatuated with Venetia Stanley, one of his daughter's

her every day - but it reads disconcertingly like a gazetteer. If Hello! had been around in 1912 it would have read like this. Everyone is family home, Glen, the freezing wealthy, clever, well-connected and mock-Gothic castle at Traquair in glamorous. Well, maybe not Margot the Scottish Borders where the Asquith who looks like Mr Punch. homemade electricity failed every But somehow they're not real. They night and the grounds were full of have no hearts. Only when Enima Daily Express reporters hoping for a royal engagement scoop. Nothing takes over do they come to life. Twelve-year-old Emma discovers

secret cupboard in the Walnut The book is divided into two Room at Glen, opens it and out pours "an avalanche of the frozen parts. The first, pre-first world war to 1941, is seen through the eyes of tears of my grandmother and her oulsa, the family's 17-year-old world". Up till then, the portraits of housemaid in love all her life with women with grumpy Queen Victoria Bim, the Glenconner heir killed on faces and men like stiff cut-outs had the Somme. Bim was probably the been strangers. nicest of all the Tennants. At 17 he "I learnt that the sole cause of would quote from the Iliad "with

their unhappiness, which in my family was to assume the proportions of Greek tragedy, could be discovered again and again in the loss and thwarting of love, patterns and repetitions as densely interwoven as the birds and leaves of Pamela's grandmother's William Morris designs."

Exactly whose love was thwarted

friends, and wrote intimate notes to | when Colin Tennant failed to po pose to Princess Margaret in Saperbacks clear. A generation earlier away ing to one of the Glen house guest techolas Lezard Colin's father Christopher was a sound in Mine, by Michael vited to Glamis and funked pupps ing to Elizabeth Bowes-Lyons It reswell (Flamingo, £7.99) fled to Venice instead and had a pickly enterprise, trying affair with John Barrymore's wife a sisk? enterprise, trying to Strangers is full of these fashing ashive a synthesis of English and the strangers but the strangers and the strangers and the strangers are strangers.

with The Pursuit Of Love. As a rell in his hands as he embarks stands, it leaves you vaguely do his strange, circuitous odyssey. satisfied, which may of course to a jump from the orbits of high precisely what she planned To I low culture without breaking queen of sequels has shown us the the or striking a false note. He

Strangers is full of these facing! Anheve a synthesis of English ing snippets, but like an Orient of fewhich includes Oscar Wilde, banquet stuffed with tasty more. The which includes Oscar Wilde, banquet stuffed with tasty more. The which includes Oscar Wilde, banquet stuffed with tasty more. The which includes Oscar Wilde, banquet stuffed with tasty more. The which step wand, The What, for instance, came of Hany and Except Hall, Wyndham Cust, her grandmother's only refer to Kosamond Lehmann and love, he of the beautiful fingernal with Smiths; the book's subtitle is which step and a mixture to be tween Asquith and Venetia Such the Albion from Wilde to between Asquith and Venetia Such the Albion from Wilde to between Asquith and Venetia Such the step and, most tantalising of all, what we may be about to nephew whispered in her ear before the died of Aids? If Tennant had with (not British) navel-gazing. he died of Aids? If Tennant had with (not British) navel-gazing, chosen to write Strangers as pure it Bracewell succeeds. The joy fiction, it might have been upther in book comes from putting

goose — the golden eggs, lots of a last a sense of humour, and them, are probably on their way. ketches along the way; The Group were "young men deeply sached in a psycho-melodrama, shom torture and oppression the pop thematic equivalent of

d'omfort in this book, albeit a In discussing the history of Rouse Scalate frappe comfort (it means and the fall of the Republic, Runo half.) Tony, but you probably man illustrates what has been called

doch and China: the sheer scale

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The man who fell to earth

Starman: The Truth Behind the Legend of Yuri Gagarin by Jamie Doran and Plers Bizony Bloomsbury 248pp £17.99

S PACEMEN are often young, invariably upwardly mobile and always professional. Luck put them quite literally at the sharp end, and they would have gone nowhere without the huge thrust of intellect and effort below them. But they all had vaulting ambition. The road to heaven is paved with more than just good intentions

On the morning of April 12, 1961, no one had heard of Yuri Gagarin. By noon of that day he was the most famous man in the world. At 9.06 Moscow time, he accelerated away from the Baikonur space station strapped into a Vostok spacecraft poised on top of an R-7 rocket and at 10.55 Moscow time, after not-quite one complete revolution of the planet at 28,000 kilometres an hour. he tumbled out of the sky near a village called Smelkovka in the Saratov region to be greeted by an astonished woman, a child and a dappled calf. "Can it be that you have come from outer space?" the woman asked him, "As a matter of fact, I have," said the first cosmonaut.

Gagarin had a grin that lit up the darkness of the cold war and a natural grace that made him one of the best ambassadors the USSR ever had. The Soviet prime minister,

promises the truth; what the text | lected either for the Russian or the American space programme. After-wards he found his fame a strain:

Space oddity . . . Gagarin's fame brought him to earth with a bump

In 1942, when he was eight, the Germans occupied his home village. More than 20 million Russians. died at the hands of the Nazis. All and memoirs of people within and the Gagarins survived. Yuri is remembered as "going down into the cellar to find bread, potatoes, never in any doubt. Gagarin was a milk and vegetables, and distribut-first-class pilot and a hardworking ing them to refugees from other districts". He is remembered as Nikita Khrushchev, liked him: a simple lad of peasant origins who came up the hard way. The title came up the hard way. The title set and simple lad of peasant origins who came up the hard way. The title set and showing potatoes into the exhausts of Nazi military cars.

He saved his mother from being scythed to death by throwing clods into the eyes of a German sergeant.

The adult Gagarin was determined, generous and brave. No doubt the boy was too. But in Stalin's Russia, no other version of events would have been advisable. For a Hero of the Soviet Union, no other version of events would be thinkable. And, even after the collapse of communism, why would anyone want to change the story?

Gagarin used to point out that his Hero of the Soviet Union medal was marked number 11,175. "That means that 11,174 people accomplished something worthwhile before me," he would say, becomingly.

He accomplished something worthwhile for Nasa: the flight galvanised President Kennedy into a decision and in four years Nasa's spending commanded 5 per cent of the entire federal budget. Gagarin toured the world, supped with the Queen, and holidayed with the privileged in the Crimea. He caused a muted scandal by drunkenly propositioning a woman and then leaping out of a window to escape discovery by his wife. After Khrushchev was deposed,

things went downhill for Gagarin and the space programme. He tried to do things for people — he certainly tried to prevent the fatal Komarov in 1967 aboard an illprepared Soyuz spacecraft - but he never went aloft again himself, and was training to maintain be ti pilot's status when he crashed. mysteriously, in 1968. He was literally blown to pieces. He had two daughters. His wife lives on in a very modest house and almost never speaks to journalists.

There's a boy in my soup

lan Sansom

About a Boy by Mok Hornhy Gollancz 286pp £15.99

THERE are basically two kinds of soup. There's the kind like stew: messy, chewy, full of disintegrating carrot and potato, with stringy little bits of chicken and bone, and slivers of onion and parsnip. And then there's the stuff that's been left to stand, allowed to cool and settle, had all its scum skimmed off, and then had a quick whisk through a blender: smooth, consistent, soup without lumps and a good matt finish. Nick Hornby's books are more like the second type of soup: they're a kind of literary puree.

It's almost as if Hornby's prose has been drained through a sieve: all the substance, all the verbiage, all the usual tedious fatty stuff that you get in novels has been rubbed through until the whole is easily digestible. Which is presumably why people like it: reading his books is like eating Heinz Tomato Soup; it's comfort food. Good ordinary popular English literature, like good old-fashioned British food. probably never went away, but now it's fashionable again, and Hornby is

About A Boy, like Fever Pitch and High Fidelity before it, is filling and perfectly tasty, though still lacking in some indefinable quality, some seasoning that would add complexity to the taste. It's essentially a coming-of-age novel, in which not age: one of them, Will Freeman, is the set-pieces at parties, the in his 30s; the other, Marcus, is a detailing of the dilemmas of post-12-year-old, on the cusp of adoles-

Marcus and his mum have recently moved to London, and it's taking him a while to learn how to fit in with the other children at his new school. Will is a waster who spends his time trying to pick up needy thirtysomething single mothers. He eventually finds a purpose to his sad life in his friendship with Marcus and in his relationship with a new girlfriend, Rachel, During the course of the book everybody grows up and grows | London territory, and stays faithful | contact CultureShop (see page 29)



Nick Hornby: a dumbed-down Iris Murdoch

many words; "All three of them had had to lose things in order to gain other things. Will had lost his shell and his cool and his distance, and he felt scared and vulnerable, but he got to be with Rachel; and Fiona had lost a big chunk of Marcus, and she got to stay away from the casualty ward; and Marcus had lost himself, and got to walk home from school with his shoes on." And that's about the measure of it, in terms of both

style and substance. As a straightforward book about emotional survival, with a few strong central characters and a few ts". The snappy, droll dialogue, pubescence (namely, the big questions about sex, death and the meaning of life), the chronicling of confused individuals' wild hopes and disappointments, and the constant reminder that somehow life must go on even though we don't food is more digestible ... nor does

teen-fiction of the late 1960s and 1970s. It's that good. Except of course that Hornby stays tethered to his familiar north

wiser. Even Fiona, Marcus's suicidal mum, cheers up a bit by the end. Hornby says as much, and in so

to his music and his football. He sticks to the tried-and-tested creative writing formula, and writes about what he knows: which is a three or four kilometre radius around Highbury and Islington, and the history of pop, from the first Clash album onwards (the title, presumably, is a nod to Nirvana's "About a Girl"; the death of Kurt Cobain features heavily as a plot device).

The usual ingredients are bound together with an emulsifying agent of vague, sub-philosophical musing, and the overall tone is instructive: observe and do otherwise. Hornby is in fact beginning to sound increasingly like a dumbed-down Iris Murdoch: the books repeat again laughs, About A Boy reads very and again the same convoluted much like a book for "young emotional relationships and re-heat the same strained philosophy.

PHOTO: CHRIS SAUNDERS

Taken - swallowed - as a whole it's a real broth of a book, and if you enjoyed the last two you won't mind another helping. Mrs Beeton, for one, would have approved: "The valuable dietetic properties of soup have been, and indeed still are. much overlooked . . . no form of quite know why, mean that About A | any other method of preparing food Boy merits comparison with the afford so many opportunities for Holden Caulfield-haunted American utilising material that would otherwise be wasted."

> If you would like to order this book at the special price of £11.99

On best behaviour

Lewis Woipert

The Social Animal by W G Runciman HarperCollins 144pp £14.99

FOR Runciman this is a particularly exciting time to be engaged in sociological research, and he has given us a valuable introduction for non-specialists; but considering how critical he is of some of his professional colleagues, they too to be their weaknesses. would benefit from reading it. Sociology refers to the study of human behaviour in relation to social life in which humans attach meaning to the Genetic Fallacy, that is assumed thought that the world was a their relationships, and tries to understand various humans attach meaning to the Genetic Fallacy, that is assumed thought that the world was a ling the cause of an event explain. which humans attach meaning to derstand various human groups and

ustitutions, both present and past. Runciman is committed, though ne rarely applies it, to a Darwinian evolutionary approach — descent with modification — in which one thinks of cultures or societies having their probability of replication enhanced. This attempt to identify replicators and selection in social processes has a strong Procrustean ieel, forcing his ideas to fit the Darvinian bed he has made for them.

A key feature of Darwinian theory s selection, and even if an analogy can be drawn between the information content of culture and genes, I still cannot see what the selection process is. Society involves complex interactions, and it is these dynamic processes that need to be understood. An example of this approach is provided by his discussion of the so-called Matthew Effect, that the winner takes all. The sudden escalation of the financial rewards for top executives, sports stars and writers in the United States is accounted for in terms of the changes in the whether or not it is true. In soil environment, such as an increase in

the consumer market. Sociologists and anthropologists have a problem when they come to studying an allen culture. The case of Margaret Mead being grossly misled by the Samoans is well known. But it is possible to identify with the habits of a different culture and Evans Pritchard, when he lived with the Azande, managed to regulate his affairs in accordance with the oracle's decisions and always kept a supply of poison handy. But this descriptive exercise is different from the formulation of explanatory hypotheses of such behaviour.

 $\Delta_{i,j} = 0$

Runciman is suspicious of the round blondes and little red search for the Big Idea — as in the Felles". A few omissions, but it's case of Marx (under capitalism ma ll 2 great way of understanding exploits man; under socialism it is length. the other way round) - adincludes the theories of Weber and Men Agendas, by John Durkheim, Apart from Marxism, the For (Vintage, £8.99) dominant ideas on sociology th century have been functionalism. THOSE of us who are dismayed structuralism, and behaviourism - the ease and swiftness with all of which are anti-evolutionary - Tony Blair and his cronies and he catalogues what he believe gruken the Thatcherite line will

its consequences. So it was not light you some nasty moments. Julius Caesar's courage and ambition that led to the fall of the Repub it intraposition. The pious handlic. But could there not also be the light after Dunblane looks a Sociological Fallacy which assumes less holy when placed next to that one knows the cause of a particular historical set of events? Materials and alreraft to the murderers a single cause is an illusion and its control Indonesia: Britain's the result of complex dynamics in star denouncement of "terror-my own subject, embryonic de sits measily next to her treatthe result of companies of the indigenous population of the limb, but no single caus, although one can identify cass connections such as the signals that change is the connections the change of the signal connections such as the signals that the change of the connections that the change of the connections the change of the change of the connections the connection of the indigenous population is the change of the indigenous population in the connection of the indigenous population is the change of the indigenous population in the connection of the indigenous population is the change of the indigenous population in the change of the indigenous population is the change of the indigenous population in the change of the indigenous population is the change of the indigenous population in the change of the indigenous population is the change of the indigenous population in the indigenous population is the indigenous population in the indigenous population in the indigenous population is the indigenous population in the indigenous population in the indigenous population is the indigenous population in the indigen

difficult to accept. The logy, as in science, reliable mosledge is value free, the moral issue arise only in relation to how the

information is used. While he retains a vision of sock logy as an exciting mystery ator, there is a pessimistic concluses that what "sociology teaches is here." little it can do, or ever will, to preid how the patterns of roles consilts tive of human groups, communities in the state of the state of human groups, communities in the state of human groups. institutions and societies are artially going to evolve. But shot there are so many who believe he they both know how society works and how best to change it, this book and how best to change it, this book deserves to be very widely studed

Old dog learns new tricks

Julia Eccleshare on the winner of the Guardian Children's Fiction Prize

THE four shortlisted books for this year's Guardian Children's Fiction Prize represent the quality and breadth of contempo rary children's publishing. The judges were looking for a novel for seven-year-olds and upwards that would entertain and excite readers for years to come.

In Jane Stemp's Secret Songs (Hodder) they found a book that showed enormous insight in dealing with the world of the deaf heroine; in The Track Of The Wind (Mammoth) they relished Jamila Gavin's handling of the complexities of the partition of India; they were delighted by the good humour and pace of J K Rowling's Harry Potter And The Philosopher's Stone (Bloomsbury); but the striking and Branford's Fire, Bed And Bone (Walker Books) carried the day

A story told through the eyes of an old hunting dog could have all kinds of problems. So could the historical setting of the Peasants' Revolt. But Branford' vibrant and polished writing transcends both effortlessly.

Starting with the last whelping of the old dog who wants nothing more than the fire, bed and bone of the title. Branford tackles the major issues of birth, death and the separations between mother and child - human and animal - with a direct honesty that avoids both the mawkish and the sentimental. On the contrary, the emotions that most strongly fuel the book are courage and the need to fight for freedom. Branford is a passionate

demonstrates is how hard it is to get

Gagarin's brother and sister, and

from fellow cosmonauts such as

Gherman Titov, the second man in

orbit, and the observations, letters

outside the space business. They

confirm some things that were

student, he was in terrific physical

Soviet heroes in focus.

bellever in both. "I value courage," she says. "If I were a fairy godmother I would give children courage. You can't promise children safety, but you can give them the courage to help them survive. I don't like pretending that the world is a safe place or that we can keep our children safe. You cannot predict what will happen but you can say, 'Be brave'."

Likened by one of the judges to E B White's Charlotte's Web, with mothers at once protecting and abandoning their young, thi is a story about growing and parting. Rufus and Comfort, the numan couple in the story, are taken from their children for their part in the peasants' upris-ing against the combined power Church. Rufus is hanged. The dogs, too, are unable to protect their young from both animal and human predators, Telling the story through the old dog's eyes gives Branford the opportunity to describe the countryside with a sharpness that is a vital ingredient of the book.

"I was brought up on the edge of the New Forest," she says. "What my father taught me, about animals comes through. It took a long time to get the dog's voice - it started out as a pig — but once I had it, the story of the Peasants' Revolt followed guite easily." It is that voice which shapes the book.

Dream machine

Sylvia Brownrigg Martin Dressier: The Tale of

an American Dreamer by Steven Millhauser Phoenix House 293pp £12.99

THE setting of Steven Mill-hauser's glittering new novel is New York at the turn of the century, when "the city was a feverpatient in a hospital, thrashing in its sleep, erupting in modern dreams".
With bright and quiverlng energy
Millhauser brings the city to life at
its quintessentially American stage
— yearning, striving, climbing, hungry: busy with those virtues that may also be perils, when dreams grow so great they eventually col-lapse under the weight of their own

Martin Dressler is, as the subtitle suggests, a moral tale "of an American dreamer". In it Martin, son of a ager of a chain of lunchrooms to manager and builder of ever more fabulous hotels: In winning last year's Pulitzer Prize, Martin Dressler threw a belated light on Millhauser, whose smart, magical fictions are often both meticulously historical and also subject to wild. Calvino-like flights into the fanciful.

Milhauser is drawn to dreamers. In Martin Dressler it is Martin's dream-like achievement, a hotel called the Grand Cosmo, that proves his undoing and carries him off.

But on the way to Martin's final folly, Millhauser lingers over the busy, real world — in almost over-whelming detail. He is irrepressible

elevator workings, plumbing material, awning colours, bridge suspen-sions, building works, machinery. Meanwhile the novel's emotional story is rather stilled, as Martin falls passively into marriage with Caroline, who is "tense and languorous", an unsettling combination. The poignant fact is that it is her sister, Emmeline, with whom Martin has an intellectual bond; it is she who hears

his great plans as he conceives them. The novel thrums with the animated prose with which Millhauser canvasses his city and the dreams of his dreamer. Millhauser is fascinated by the way New York simultaneously colonised the sky as well as the underground. New York is "a fierce and magical city of moving iron, while along the trembling avenues there rose, in the clashing air, higher and higher still, buildings". Like the city's designers, Martin wants to build hotels that grow ever higher German cigar store owner, makes a even as they burrow further underdramatic series of moves, from ground — where his hotels nurture and pleasure gardens.

Milhauser's imagination is drawn to worlds within worlds (museums arcades, circuses), and so the hotel - in its 19th century sense providing permanent as well as transient residence - is an kleal metaphor. Martin's ambition becomes explictly godlike: like the designers of the Titanic, he wants the Grand Cosmo to have every luxury, every diversion. In fact he wants it to have everything; Martin succumbs to "a yearning for the exhaustive, which was the secret malady of the age".

Finally, fiction and ambition spin out of control, and Martin's wonderful Grand Cosmo leaves the map of. in his description of chair fabrics, I the real, taking Martin with it.



long, and it might pose an unaccept-

Scientists who have studied Euro-

pean re-introductions think these

concerns are unfounded, and fish-

eries' experts say that beavers will

Species directive that mandates the

British government to reinstate

extinct species where feasible, the

For Alan Watson Featherstone.

bringing back beavers has a much

executive director of Trees For Life,

greater significance. "Humans have

derailed evolution in Scotland by

destroying the ecosystem and leav-

ing wreckage of the natural forest

"Bringing back the beaver is a

significant step to putting back the

pieces so that evolution can take its

own course again, Reinstating forest

scattered," he says.

beaver has the law on its side

Leave it to the beaver

Paul Evans

N THE mid-17th century, the poet Christopher Smart pleaded for the introduction of new creatures into this island. I pray God for the ostriches of Salisbury Plain, the beavers of the Medway and silver fish of Thames". Ostriches and silver fishes apart, if ever there was a creature that belongs in Britain, it is the loveable beaver.

The 12th century writer Giraldus Cambrensis gave a detailed account of beavers but said they had disappeared from Britain with the exception of the Telfi river in Wales and an unknown river in Scotland, Their wooded, streamside habitat destroyed, and hunted mercilessly for their fur and scent glands, beavers had, by the middle ages, become semi-fabulous beasts whose fur was imported to make hats.

The Eurasian beaver, Castor fiber, our largest rodent weighing up to 35kg, is thought have survived in Scotland until the 16th century. In 19th century Europe isolated beaver populations hung on in the Eibe basin in Germany, the Rhône basin in France, and southern Norway. Small numbers remained in Belarus,

new colonies of the toothy, flat-tailed rodents through reintroductions from these remaining populations. The European population of beavers currently numbers about 160,000. with at least 100,000 in former Soviet Union countries.

the return of the natives.

After a feasibility study, SNH has

but they're not eager either. "I'm Russia and Mongolia. Since the open-minded," says Hugh Campbell 1920s, and particularly during the Adamson of the SLF, "but we must

last 30 years or so, 14 European | be sure that in 50 to 100 years' time countries have been establishing | we won't have the same problems we won't have the same problems as with grey squirrels and coypu. There's a risk of river erosion, flooding of farmland, damage to trees and damage to fishing interests. It's naive to expect the beaver to slot back into the countryside after so

Britain may have been the first country in Western Europe to lose its beavers. It has certainly been one of the last to do anything about it. Until now. After at least 400 years of extinction, Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) has launched a public consultation process to negotiate

concluded that Scotland could support a wild population of up to 1,000 beavers and favours the river catchments and lochs of the Ness, Lomond, Tay, Spey, Dee and Don for reintroduction. Although recent polls have shown that two-thirds of Scots want the beavers back, SNH is at pains to gather further support against pressure from powerful

The Scottish Landowners Federation (SLF) are not openly hostile,

Chess Leonard Barden

XBRIDGE chess players have become pragmatic. The annual varsity match, which launched many future GM and IM pros during the Bobby Fischer boom of the seventies, now features nascent economists, scientists and mathematicians.

This year Oxford's top board. Dharshan Kumaran, is a grandmaster and a double junior world champion, but he was just a student taking a day off from his medical studies.

Chess can still offer tangible rewards if you are lucky as well as talented. Cambridge's third board, Harriet Hunt, who won the 1997 world girls under-20, was probably the first reigning world champion to take part in the venerable annual series that began in 1873, when Steinitz and Zukertort were spectators.

Oxford's second board. Jonathan Rowson, has found his personal crock of gold in the shape of an anonymous backer who has financed \$8,000 matches at which the 20-yearold Scot has so far beaten a GM and an IM. And the backer is getting more ambitious: Rowson's next six-game series will be against Michael Adams, a mismatch for the British number one, but a great opportunity for an economics student.

actually enhance fishing. Thanks to a European Union Habitats and Last month's varsity match was sponsored by Tony Buzun of the Brain Trust, and staged in traditionally elegant ambience at the RAC Club in Pall Mall, London, Oxford won 5-3 to reduce its overall deficit to 49-50. with 17 draws. The chess was excellent. Kumaran, Rowson and Hunt all won in impressive style, possibly the highest quality play on the top boards in the match's long history.

J Rowson v B Kelly

1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 animals like the beaver touches Nxd4 Nc6 5 Nc3 d6 6 Be3 a6 7 people physically and spiritually and is wholeheartedly welcomed." Qd2 Nf6 8 0-0-0 Be7 9 f4 0-0 10 Be2 Bd7 11 g4 Nxd4 12

off his outpost knight.

Nxc4 If Bxe4 18 Qxe4 Ruts with an awesome display of running Qxb7. 18 Qxc4 b5 19 Qt3 Qt as Sunday that underlined their 20 g6 Forcing open lines and ge into as the northern hemisphere's venting a queen swap that out set het for next year's World Cup. activate Black's bishop pair Qtd If there were a league against 21 gxh7+ Kh8 22 Bd4 Qh6 thuch team sports, this French side Kb1 Bf6 24 Bxf6 Qxf8 25 Qk quid have charges to answer, so Rfd8 26 Rgd3 Qh4 27 Rg3 Qtd1 was their cutting edge and so 28 Rdg1 g6 29 h4 Kh7 30 kuhless their tenacity as they Rg8 31 Rg5 Kh6 32 e5 dx5 linched back-to-back Grand Slams Qh4 Kg7? Kelly, the best ware both first time. They also inflicted NGS 51 Kg5 Kh6 32 e5 desirinched back-to-back Grand Slams Qh4 Kg7? Kelly, the bestyong eithe first time. They also inflicted player in Ireland, has defended the heaviest margin of defeat in the coolly but here Qf4 34 R5gf 52 the Nations as Wales failed to better chance as White's back-moore in a champlonship match for vulnerable. 34 hxg6 fxg6 35 K/be first time since 1992.

Bxe4 36 Qxe4 Kf8 37 Re5 It was obvious that France have D42 32 Qxe4 Ac42 30 Rt. Evaluabel the decaying lessons of

Rd8 38 Qb4+ Qd6 39 Rll k is shed the dynamic lessons of 40 Re7+ Resigns. Therehemisphere rugby as the hera-hemisphere rugby as the bless Welsh struggled to mainhin a semblance of dignity amid the ide of blue shirts. Pace, flexibility and the ability to attack from any part of the field provided the foundations of a high-scoring style that pelded seven tries and earned france the right to brandish the Five Nations trophy on Wembley's turf.
Poor Wales, without Scott Gibbs

and Allan Bateman to shore up their adfield, resembled so many red pilar-boxes, such was their lack of True, Robert Howley's men did raise the tempo in the secand half, but the scoreboard contina b c d e f g | ueitoreflect France's authority. Thomas Castaignède was the

points aggregate of 146, beating by

defeat by France was for them the

then they played four Tests without

pilicant result of the tournament.

The black king is missing from the board, so where must be placed for it to be check to be check to be check mate in one move? This offices England 35 Iroland 17

than it looks, is a good test of chess logic and has caught of strong players.

England build on rock-solid base strong players. No 2517: 1 Rf6 (threat 2 NG).

No 2517: 1 Rf6 (threat 2 No. 1 and 2 Ref or a season was glue 2 Rxg1). If h2 2 Re6 hat patchy win last Saturday that gave 3 Rh6. If Kh2 2 Rf3 Kh13 them their fourth successive Triple frown and a record championship

Oxd4 Bc6 13 g5 Nd7.14 Rd e5 15 fxe5 Nxe5 16 Rg5 Md French fire engulfs all nations 17 Bc4!? After normal Sician Defence foreplay where White vances menacingly on the Btr. sobert Armstrong at Wernbley vances menacing the Btr. sobert Armstrong at Wernbley vances menacing the Btr. sobert Armstrong at Wernbley vances menacing the Btr. s

hughy Union Five Nations Championship: Wales 0 France 51

the jugular. In Philippe Carbonneau, the blond-haired French No 10, he had a resourceful half-back partner who cleared the ball away from the breakdown with an efficiency that would appeal to the All Blacks. While the French back row,

smoothly propelled by the driving of Olivier Magne on the open side, manufactured the bullets for their backs to fire, their counterparts got involved in foul play. Colin Charvis, Stuart Davies and Rob Appleyard were each yellow-carded, as was the France centre Stéphane Glas. Wales had suffered an embar-

rassing 42-7 defeat by New Zealand at Wembley in the autumn, yet this latest setback will be even more painful to absorb, coming only a month after their record 60-24 defeat by England at Twickenham. The green shoots of promise shown by the Welsh team who defeated Ireland and Scotland were trampled underfoot by the likes of full-back Jean-Luc Sadourny and the wing Xavier Garbajosa, who each scored two excellent tries.

England, championship runnersup, could accelerate their progress towards new-age rugby by studying French skills instead of focusing exclusively on the methods used in mind Bath's European Cup success, unhishiled architect of his side's the French produce the strongest nightmare would never end.

bewildering patterns of attack, club sides, a tradition of excellence tormenting Welsh defenders with that has filtered through to the national set-up.

How Wales, the World Cup hosts,

can repair the damage is difficult to see. Apart from the admirable Howley and a couple of tentative breaks by Neil Jenkins, who was not given his customary chance to kick penalties, there was little creative intelli-

France were unwilling to take their foot off the pedal even though they had the match sewn up within half an hour. Their superior ability to cross the gain line, reflected in a total of 43 rucks won, against 21 by Wales, ensured that scoring options arrived at frequent intervals.

Sadourny's gilt-edged tries from short passes by Glas and Philippe Bernat-Salles in the third and 14th minutes put Wales on the rack before they could take stock. A close-range score by Thomas Lièvremont quickly followed and shortly before the interval Glas broke out of a Welsh tackle and crossed the line to put his side 29-0 in front Christophe Lamaison's goalkicking, which brought him 16 points, seemed almost superfluous.

While Wales struggled vainly to break their duck the lively Garbajosa added a couple of tries near the beginning and end of the second half, and between times the substitute Fabien Galthié joined in the fun with a score at the posts. France the southern hemisphere. Never | performed as if programmed, while for bemused Wales it seemed the

favour of Danny Grewcock after the

interval. That substitution may have

been an over-reaction to the number

of line-outs and turnovers won by

England had the game effectively

won in the first half, when they built

a 25-7 lead. During that period Matt

Perry, Jeremy Guscott and Matt

Dawson showed qualities of fore-sight and imagination which Wood-

ward hopes will become second

nature throughout the team before next year's World Cup.

By the start of next season Wood-

ward will need to have settled on his

first-choice XV plus a support group of, say, 10 to 12 players, otherwise worries about his butterfly ap-

proach to selection will swiftly turn into full-blown fears. He should also

stop asking players to step into roles that they have not previously filled

the Irish forwards.

Sports Diary Shiv Sharma

Another series gone with the Windies

wickets at St Vincent to ensure that whatever the outcome of the last match in Trinidad and Tobago skipper Brian Lara will take away the Cable & Wireless Trophy.

Batting first, England were all out in the penultimate over of the innings for 149, with wicketkeeper Ridley Jacobs claiming five victims. a record between the two countries.

"We've not batted very well and have deserved to lose," said the England captain Adam Hollioake after defeat condemned the tourists to a series loss at 3-1 down. They also lost the Test Series 3-1.

England won the first match but the home side levelled the fivematch series in the most dramatic fashion when - set a victory target of 267 - they won by one wicket with a single ball remaining. The West Indies won the third game by

CHELSEA, the last remaining English beacon in Europe, was in danger of being extinguished in Italy. Playing Vicenza in the first leg of the Cup Winners' Cup semi-final, Gianluca Vialli's Blues were beaten 1-0 by a Lamberto Zauli strike in the 16th minute. It was the worst performance of their European campaign. Only a series of superb saves by Ed de Goey kept the scoreline within reach for the second leg as the English team looked tired and complacent after their recent victory over Middlesbrough in the Coca-Cola Cup final.

In the other semi-final, VIB Stuttgart beat Lokomotiv Moscow

ETER NICOL of Scotland celebrated his 25th birthday in style becoming the first home squash player to win the British Open in 25 years. He beat Jansher Khan 17-16, 15-4, 15-4 in Birmingham to deny the Pakistani legend his seventh successive victory in the competition.

"I did not expect to break him so quickly," said Nicol, whose 58-minute success should ensure he remains the world No 1 for the rest of the year. His next target is to become the first British man to win the World Open, to be played in Bombay in December.

Michelle Martin won the women's title for the sixth successive time with a 30-minute 9-4, 9-2, 9-1

play the game naturally, using the rules of good technique but not live soft good technique but not

WEST INDIES won the fourth one-day international by four RSENAL striker Dennis Bergkamp was named as the Professional Footballers' Association Player of the Year, beating off a strong challenge from Manchester United star Andy Cole, who came second, and Michael Owen, in third place. Owen, the 18-year-old Liverpool striker who in February



became the youngest lingland international this century when he played against Chile, w Young Player of the Year.

EARTH SUMMIT, trained by Nigel Twiston-Davies and ridden by jockey Carl Llewellyn. ploughed through treacle-like mud at Aintree to win a punishing Grand National by 11 lengths from top weight Suny Bay. Samlee finished third, a distance behind, and Si Mellion Flarway was fourth of the six finishers.

Llewellyn said later: "Earth Sum mit just kept going — I was worried, but I knew that Suny Bay had 12 stones to carry." This year's race, the slowest on record, was marred by an unusually high number of fa-talities. Three horses never made it back to the stables after stumbling at various fences during the race and another died later. One Man, the nation's favourite chaser, had to be put down after shattering his right hind leg in a fall at the same meeting last week.

■ EE WESTWOOD, the rising etar of British golf, won his first event in the United States, the New Orleans Classic. He also won \$306,000 and, perhaps more importantly, exemption from qualifying for any US Tour event for the next

Quick crossword no. 413

Small marsuplat (6) Wading bird (6) 8 Animalike shortnecked giraffe (5) 9 Animal of the weasel family (7) 10 Dreamlike, bizarre 11 Kind of gazetie (6) 12 Aquatic rodent (5,4) 17 Antelope resembling an elk 19 Nematode Invertebrate (7) 21 Person's attractive

7 Gossip (6)

anime((5.4) 13 Immature frog (7) 14 Amalory literature

15 Small hound (6)

antelope (6)

pub (5)

22 World's most populous country 23 Team - number (6) 9 White, arctic

24 Peruvian llama (6) 1 French novellst.

quality (7)

Marcel (6) 2 Common bird (7) 16 South African 3 Combine (5) 5 No vocal (anag) ---18 Astound (5) may blow its top (7) 20 Nelphbourhood --6 Spherical bacteria

Last week's solution

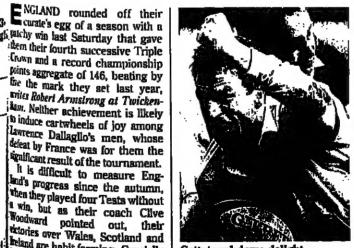
PRIMAFACIE
O M L N N B
DIAPASON GOUT
N R O E O O
TEEM PARTAKE
B & L R
MISCYHEROAT
L MASS
D S N O R H
PLUS GARRISON
E U S A N C
PETROLTANK

Bridge Zia Mahmood

dummy problems, or the par con-tests that used to be popular many years ago. Such exercises are far removed from the kind of bridge I find stimulating — the thrill of improvising at the table, of finding psychological solutions based on the human element, rather than computer-like technical plays. Achieving par is all very well, but

[AM NOT a great fan of double | are: four spades for the solid, middleof the road type; one spade for the scientist, leaving room to explore the road ahead; three spades for the ultra-conservatives in belt and braces; two spades (Weak? Strong? Who cares?) for the imaginative. None of these appealed in the least to Rose, who passed! West on his left opened with one heart, North passed, and East bid two clubs. The beating par is better still - and you | stage was set for Irving, who bid can't do that until you first learn to three spades - not four spades, for

∌ 75 ¥. A 10987 ¥4. ♥KQJ652 heland are habit-forming. Crucially bogland have developed a modest uservoir of self-belief for the sum-South Australia, New Zealand



England supporters relished the

Catti touchdown delight